

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3034.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1885.

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on the 11th there were difficulties about water:—

"The Mounted Infantry, all old soldiers, looked after by picked officers, did not suffer at all. They had as much as they wished to drink on the road, and brought in a large quantity of spare water. This shows what can be done with a little management."

The chief causes of the delays, hardships, and difficulties were that the marches were mostly made by night, and that in consequence a wrong direction was often taken, the camels were badly loaded, and the men worn out. Besides, the camels were insufficient in number; and the mistake was made of mounting not a small portion, but nearly the whole of the force.

"Some talk with—about the night-marches, as to which we differ. He says truly that the camels march much better at night, and that men and camels suffer from the heat when they march by day. I contend that sleep by day is not so refreshing as sleep by night for the men; that when the camels are loaded in the dark the loads are badly put on, and that sore backs are started before the loads can be properly adjusted by daylight; that owing to the constant long halts, necessary to keep the column together in the dark, the loads remain on the camels' backs for an excessively long time, fifteen or sixteen hours out of the twenty-four; that the camels start on empty stomachs, contrary to the habit of the beast; that much harm is done to the camels by marching, in close order, in the dark over rough ground; that the camels get neither proper rest nor food; and that men cannot stand marching from 2 A.M. to 10 or 11 A.M. with nothing inside them. I cannot think why we violate all the dictates of common-sense in our treatment of the camel, and believe we should get much more out of ours if we worked them more as the Arabs do. The desert is not a desert in the proper sense of the term. There is ample water, abundant vegetation, and an almost limitless supply of savas grass, the best of feeding for camels; and here ours are failing before we have commenced, simply because we will not give them time to feed, and when in camp tie them down so tightly they cannot move. I do not think more than 500 camels should ever travel together, and 300 would be a safer limit. It would be heresy to say the camel is a mistake; but if Tommy Atkins cannot march in such a climate as this, we had better give up fighting."

As to the supply of camels, Sir Charles Wilson as early as the 13th of January recognized the errors of Lord Wolseley in this respect, and says:—

"The supply of camels is much too small, and we are already beginning to feel the effect of the fast-and-loose game played with regard to the purchase of camels in October, November, and December. At one time an order came, buy away; then stop buying; then again, buy away,—and so on."

The observations on the action at Abu Klea are instructive, and should be a lesson to us not in future to extemporize mounted infantry corps out of detachments from various cavalry regiments. Dragoons were employed on that occasion to fight with a weapon with which they were unskilled, and in a manner to which they were unaccustomed.

"Carmichael was accidentally shot through the head by one of our own men, so that death must have been instantaneous. Gough of the Royals, and, I fear, others, lost their lives in the same way. How I escaped when the rear rank turned round to fire I know not, except that many of the men were so excited that they fired up in the air.....How was the square broken? you will say. Well, there

are various opinions; one is, that it was a mistake to turn cavalry into infantry, and make them fight in square with an arm they were not accustomed to. Add to this, the cavalry were detachments from different regiments, only brought together a few days before we left Korti. A cavalry man is taught never to be still, and that a square can be broken. How can you expect him in a moment to forget all his training, stand like a rock, and believe no one can get inside a square? Then a cavalry man has a short handy carbine; he is given a long rifle and bayonet, and uses them for the first time in his life when a determined enemy is charging him. The Heavy Camel Corps had marched straight up from Assuan in detachments, and its organization was changed from troops to companies only just before leaving Korti; it had also had little drill as infantry. Those who were near the Heavies told me that as the men fired they moved back involuntarily—not being taught, as infantry men are, to stand in a rigid line; they thus got clubbed together, and Burnaby tried to open them out so as to get a greater development of fire and let the Gardner play..... Another cause of the disaster was the jamming of the cartridges, which are made on economical principles, and do not stand knocking about. I saw myself several men throw their rifles down with bitter curses when they found them jammed and useless; and if infantry did this, the cavalry using the long rifle for the first time must have been worse. Can you imagine a more dreadful position than that of being face to face with an Arab, and your only arm a rifle that will not go off?"

The last letter from Gordon, received before the first expedition to Jakdul, advised that the column should advance by either the Matammeh or the Berber route, and that rumours of our approach should not be allowed to spread abroad. His advice was, unfortunately, not acted on. Our author remarks on this point:—

"From the Emir of Berber's letter it is evident that the concentration of Arabs to fight us at Abu Klea took place after, and was consequent upon, Stewart's occupation of Jakdul; so that if he had gone straight across, as at one time intended, he would have met with no opposition in the desert, and probably not much at Matammeh. The original plan had to be given up for want of transport. Another thousand camels, which might have been easily got in November, would have done the business."

On the 19th was fought the action in which Sir Herbert Stewart was mortally wounded, and the column narrowly escaped destruction. Much of the difficulty and risk would have been avoided had not Sir Herbert Stewart, in spite of the reiterated teachings of military history, been wedded to night marches. As the journal shows, Sir Charles Wilson more than once expressed his disapproval of them, but his arguments were overruled. He experienced the melancholy satisfaction of finding himself proved to have been in the right. Writing of the events of the 19th of January, he says:—

"So ended the night-march, which I cannot think was necessary, for the days were not hot, and the men would have fought much better after a night's sleep and a good breakfast. Had we halted when the column came to grief in the bush, every one would have been fresh in the morning; we should have had our fight close outside Matammeh, and been into it and on the Nile by mid-day. As it was, we were in *laager*, with camels and horses that could scarcely walk, and men who had been marching all night, and who had had no rest for three consecutive nights.

Men under such circumstances get into a nervous 'jumpy' state, which might lead to a grave disaster. So great was the disorder during the night, and so dark was it, that a couple of hundred men knowing the ground might have given us serious trouble, and we owed our safety as much as anything to the inactivity of the enemy."

When Sir Charles Wilson marched to the Nile he left behind a strong detachment in a zerebah to protect stores and wounded. This detachment was undisturbed during the night, and profited by the circumstance to plunder the stores. The plunderers consisted chiefly of the native followers, but some of the English soldiers were equally guilty. Sir Charles does not expressly name the corps to which the latter belonged, but there is no obscurity on the subject. He says:—

"When visiting the wounded, I found one of these wretched men, who should have been nursing his bleeding comrades, hopelessly and noisily drunk. I was very wroth, and longed for a return of the days when a man could be triced up and given four dozen lashes. All I could do was to have the brute tied up to a tree in the sun."

At sunset on the 20th of January Sir Charles Wilson had returned to the Nile, having brought in the wounded from the zerebah, and proceeded to consider his position. The men were exhausted by a long and fatiguing march of twelve days, during the last four of which they had undergone excessive exertion; they had fought two actions without a single night's rest, and suffered much from want of food, water, and blankets. They had lost, moreover, a tenth of their number. The camels had been without water six or seven days; they had been scantily fed during the whole march, and loaded for eighteen hours at a time. The consequence was that they could hardly crawl. The cavalry horses were in little better plight.

"They reached the Nile almost useless as cavalry, and could only be employed for scouting purposes, at short distances from the camp."

The entire force, therefore, imperatively needed rest. To attack Matammeh under these circumstances seemed rash, but Sir Charles Wilson "considered that the political effect of not taking Matammeh would be so bad that its capture ought to be attempted." He accordingly did attempt it the next day, but, we are bound to confess, in a rather half-hearted manner, and the result was merely a reconnaissance in force, which convinced the commander that he would not be justified in pushing the assault home. He was chiefly induced to arrive at this conclusion by intelligence that a large force from Khartoum was close at hand.

We now come to that part of the expedition which has produced much hostile criticism—criticism which has been indirectly endorsed by Lord Wolseley himself, and indulged in very directly and violently by a newspaper correspondent. Sir Charles Wilson has been accused of undue delay in proceeding to Khartoum, and it has been asserted that if he had shown more energy Gordon might have been saved. Without formally entering on a defence Sir Charles Wilson has temperately yet clearly stated the facts of the case and the circumstances of his position. Having carefully considered

his account, we have arrived at the conclusion that no blame whatever is to be imputed to him, and that the reasons for the course which he adopted were such as would have decided any one but a man of exceptional audacity and genius for war. Moreover there is every reason to believe that even if Sir Charles Wilson with his steamers had reached Khartoum a week earlier, the catastrophe could not have been averted, for the Mahdi had made every arrangement to anticipate the British. To follow Sir Charles hour by hour and to try and ascertain whether any hours, and if so how many, could have been saved, would need more space than we can afford. The reader will find the facts very frankly and simply set forth in the book itself. It is certain that, a start once made, there was no avoidable delay; and the gallantry, ability, and fertility of resource displayed by Sir Charles Wilson in his river expedition show that he is not merely learned, but also possesses all the qualities of a good soldier, only needing a little practical experience in the handling of troops to be qualified for high command. As to the literary merits of the book before us, they are such as might have been expected from so accomplished a man, and the simplicity with which the tale is told does not prevent it from being one of the most interesting and exciting military romances which we have ever read.

Historical Manuscripts Commission.—Reports on the Manuscripts of the Earl of Eglinton, Sir J. Stirling-Maxwell, &c. (Eyre & Spottiswoode.)

OUT of the five reports contained in the new volume issued by the Manuscripts Commission, three refer to the private muniments in Scotland of Lord Eglinton, Sir J. Stirling-Maxwell, and Mr. Drummond Moray, and have been drawn up, it seems almost needless to state; by the veteran archivist Dr. William Fraser. The introductions to them are quite worthy of the reputation of such an eminent authority on matters historical and antiquarian, and leave nothing to be desired in the way of explaining the documents given in the text. To one uninitiated in the mysteries of Scottish genealogies the long expositions of early charters may, perhaps, seem a little wearisome; but no student of the past will set aside any portion of these reports as wholly without interest or value.

Among the Eglinton papers are many which bear on social life and manners, such as the document describing the dresses worn and the prices paid for them by a maid of honour at the court of James I., and many lists of jewellery and silver plate. In illustration of the drinking habits of the seventeenth century, Dr. Fraser quotes from the household account of the sixth Earl of Eglinton an entry of the consumption of ale on Thursday, November 26th, 1646:—

"To your Lordship's morning drink, a pynt; for my Ladies morning drink 1 pynt; to your Lordship's dinner 2 pynts; mair 3 pynts; to the letter meal 2 pynts; after dinner 1 pynt; at four houres 1 pynt; ane other pynt; to your Lordship's supper, 3 pyntis," &c.

Other extracts might be given showing that wine was freely imbibed on some days as well as ale. In April, 1620, the earl instructs one of his servants to inquire about

the cost of a boarding school, and the man thus reports:—

"I haif at lenth spokin with the scoulmester in the Panis, quha dois assure me that hes preceis price of his buirders sitting at tabill is tuo hunder merk; and those that sities at the fuit of the tabill faires als weall as those at the heide and so most pay no lesse; so this will cum to nyn hunder merk a year. The tearme advanscit at the entrie, and everie on of the scollers a dolor in the quarter, besydes clothes wasching and Candelmes candell siluer: your lordship most also send tuo bedding of clothes with them."

The most interesting historical letters in the Eglinton collection are of the Civil War period, and Sir J. Stirling-Maxwell has in his possession two of more than ordinary value, referring to the death of Stafford and the trial of Argyle; but in documents of this class the collection of Mr. Drummond Moray is very much richer. Among these may be noted three letters from Elizabeth of Bohemia to the Marquis of Buckingham, in one of which she refers to the rejoicings at the entry into Prague of the Elector Palatine and herself. There are many other letters to Buckingham from Lord Pembroke, Sir Ralph Winwood, Sir Francis Bacon when Attorney-General, and others, the majority without date; besides a number of draft letters in a familiar strain from the future duke to such personages as the Queen Mother of France and the Prince of Orange. After James I.'s time there is little Drummond correspondence of moment preserved until we come to the period of the Rebellion of 1715, with the exception of two letters of the Duke of Marlborough, and a few of Henry Watkins, written from the camp before Bouchain in August and September, 1711, which give graphic pictures by an onlooker of the progress of the siege and of the duke's diplomatic and other difficulties. The capture of this place, it will be remembered, was the last service in the field rendered by Marlborough to his country; his disgrace at home was already complete—a fact which gives a double value to a letter printed here of the Earl of Orrery, dated Brussels, September 21st, 1711, from which we take the following:—

"I have never had any hint from any of our ministers of that kind of conduct which they think necessary in relation to my Lord Marlborough but I have upon all occasions endeavoured to show him, I think I may say at least as much complaisance and respect as is either due to him from his station and character, or as the good of the publick service exacts and I dont think he will pretend to complain of me upon this head. I am rather apt to believe that some people may think I ought to have shown him more coldness, but without regard to one or the other I do assure you I have prescrib'd no other rule to myself for my behaviour towards this great man than the interest of the publick."

The above letters, and many of those for some years later preserved at Blair Drummond, are addressed to John Drummond, of Quarrel, who was a well-known merchant at Amsterdam. Mr. Drummond Moray has, however, at Ardoch another fine series of letters dated between 1716 and 1740, and chiefly addressed to Admiral Thomas Gordon, who left the British navy, from pique or from Jacobite sympathies it is suggested, and rose to high rank in the Russian service, holding with other appointments the governorship of Cronstadt. He died in 1741, at the ripe age of seventy-nine. In this

latter collection are many letters from the Old Pretender, who signs himself sometimes J. Trueman or J. Williams, at other times James R. A short note from Peter the Great (in Russian) instructs the admiral to inquire in England or Scotland for two men that know how to find "stone coal" by the marks upon the surface of the earth. The Duke of Liria, Berwick's son, is also one of Gordon's correspondents. On July 1st, 1727, he writes from Vienna: "God send that George's death, and the new Elector of Hanover's haughtiness, may produce a favourable change in old England, but I do not hope it soon or at least these six months"; and again from Moscow on September 8th, 1729, with reference to the falling out between the King of Prussia and George II.: "This last is very proud, but the former has forty thousand men ready besides twelve thousand Saxons. God send he may drubb my friend George and make him change his bullying way of acting." The Jacobite letters include some of Lord Mar (signed J. Carney), General de Dillon, Capt. John Hay (titular Earl of Inverness)—the two last named seem to have been entrusted with negotiations for assistance from the Czar, in whom the party had great hopes about the year 1725—and Field-Marshal Keith. There is a good letter, too, descriptive of the defeat at Glensheils of the combined Spaniards and Highlanders by General Wightman in June, 1719. These unfortunate troops were the remains of Alberoni's force, fitted out under the command of Ormonde, but for the most part scattered at sea. In illustration of Admiral Gordon's own career we have original commissions and instructions signed by William III. and Anne, and a journal in his own hand of the siege of Dantzic in May, 1734, he being instructed by the empress to conduct the operations against the French there, from which many good passages might be taken had we space for them. Among the miscellaneous letters at Blair Drummond we must not omit to call attention to a few touching the Rebellion of 1745, the writers being Lord George Murray and the Dukes of Atholl and Perth.

The Weston papers, preserved at Somerby Hall, Lincolnshire, are very fully reported upon to the Commissioners by Mr. H. B. Tomkins. Edward Weston, from whom the collection derives its name, was born in 1703, the second son of Stephen Weston, Bishop of Exeter. The bishop in earlier days was tutor to Sir Robert Walpole, and his influence with the Townshend and Walpole families was no doubt the cause of his son's making a good start in official life shortly after leaving Cambridge. Edward became under-secretary at the Foreign Office when only twenty-six years of age, and served in that capacity till 1746, under the successive administrations of Lords Townshend, Harrington, Granville, and Chesterfield. From 1746 to 1751 he was Chief Secretary for Ireland under Lord Harrington; for ten years afterwards, on account of his bad health, he withdrew from all public employment, but in 1761 he was induced by Lord Bute to return to his old post at the Foreign Office, from which he finally retired three years later. This rapid sketch of Weston's career will serve to show that he was a man intimately associated with many of the guiding spirits of an important period of

our history, and his correspondence cannot fail to contain much of great value and interest. Turning rapidly through the report, we notice letters addressed to him from Sir Robert and Horatio Walpole; Lords Bute, Harrington, Hardwicke, Townshend, and Halifax; Bishops Sherlock, Thomas, and Trevor; George Grenville, Sir Thomas Robinson the ambassador, Sir James Porter, Sir George Baker the physician, Sir Joseph Yorke, and others bearing names still remembered. Besides these are letters of Lord Chesterfield and other leading men addressed to Weston's chiefs in office, which were retained in his custody. Few of these letters, be it understood, are merely bald State documents of limited interest; the majority of the official letters are of a confidential friendly character, and introduce the reader in a way behind the scenes of politics. From the mass of documents of which abstracts are made in this report it is difficult to select specimens sufficiently illustrative of their general character; but the following notes and extracts, made during our perusal of Mr. Tomkins's report, should have an interest for all readers.

With reference to the inquiry by the House of Lords into the murder of Capt. Porteous by the Edinburgh mob, a correspondent of the Duke of Ormonde writes on March 10th, 1737:—

"Lord Carteret spake with great Vehemency against them [the mob] and made some Reflections on the Scotch in general, Lord Bathurst said they were a brave People and had been Provoked by ill usage: That he remembered to have read in the History of Richard the 2^d that several Tumults were in several Towns of England, which were chiefly owing to the ill Conduct of a Minister in those Days Sir Robert Tressailler [Tresilian?], who in the End was Prosecuted himself, and the whole Kingdom became very quiet as soon as Robert was hang'd."

A letter of Col. Cope, dated May 28th in the same year, describes a debate on the Playhouse Bill, in which Walpole was strong for the suppression of theatres, &c., whereupon Pulteney "did roast him most violently," then fell upon Winington and Sir William Yonge without mercy, and

"urging that this restraint upon the Writers for the Stage, was a certain preamble to the taking away the Liberty of the Press in general, told a story, that Charles y^e 2^d seeing a man in the Pillory, asked the crime, 'Twas libelling Lord Clarendon, odds fish! crys the King, why did not the Fool go on libelling of mee, he must now certainly suffer for libelling this great man."

Among the Jacobite letters are some of the historian Thomas Carte. In one of them he speaks of Dean Swift as knowing him very well and much his friend, Swift having laboured all he could with the Dublin booksellers to make them lay aside their design to pirate Carte's book. In the same letter, which is written in April, 1737, from Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, we read:—

"There is advertiz'd a proposal for Printing the letters of S^r Robert Cecil the first Earl of Salisbury in 3 Vol. folio the Price 3 guineas in all. I once thought it would have been an imperfect Collection because having looked over 14 or 15 trunks of letters to S^r Robert from 1570 to 1612 I found 9 parts in 10 of these letters Spoiled & rotten by damp or Vermine so that no Series can be had of the letters of this Correspondence: But as S^r Rob^t's preserved Copies of all his own letters in Books these are Not hurt the Series thereof Will be compleat the Collection Will be curious."

If the Cecil letters here referred to were seen by Carte at Hatfield, the Historical MSS. Commissioners can test for themselves the accuracy of the description during the progress of the calendar they have undertaken of that fine collection. A good story is told of Swift in another letter when the Duke of Devonshire (Lord Lieutenant), Archbishop Boulter, and the Dean were present at a feast given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

In June, 1744, Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln, thus describes his manner of exercising one episcopal function:—

"I have spent some days at Bugden in ordaining a young sett of Clergy. I found them all very well qualified upon a thorough Examination except One who was so extremely deficient that I could not admit him. I kept the young Sparks three Days strictly to their Duty made them attend twice a Day at Prayers in the Chappel where I tried the Voices of those to be ordained Deacons by making them read the Lessons, and suffered none of them to gallop To and from Cambridge every Day as had been the Practice. I made the Ordination a little more Solemn than Usual at Bugden and took all imaginable Care not to be imposed on by False Titles, and so had a smaller number of Candidates for Orders than was Customary."

Passing by some letters descriptive of the battles of Falkirk and Culloden, and other matters pertaining to the '45 rebellion, we reach, under date 1757, some graphic sketches of the debates on Admiral Byng after the sentence passed upon him.

"All the Court Martial," we read, "seemed terrified at their being examined before the Lords, except old Admiral Holbourn, who curst and swore at the Bar of that House, because Byng was not shot out of the Way, without giving him the trouble of coming from Portsmouth."

In July, 1765, we read much about the changes caused by the advent of the Rockingham administration. It is certain, reports one of Weston's correspondents, that the Duke of Grafton is to be a secretary of state, "for he told Lord Gower that, like a girl going to be married, he felt himself much pleased with the general idea, but much frighten'd as the Hour drew nigh." Sir James Porter's view of official life is somewhat different. He writes:—

"I think it is much better to live in a cell than partake of Ministerial power, popularity is what has been aimed at since S^r Rob^t Walpole's death, reputation conduct honesty to depend on an ignis fatuus: ninety-nine in the hundred of mankind cannot combine two ideas, mere animal life takes in the whole compass of the understanding, what therefore can be expected than that they should follow like a herd, the hundredth or the thousandth man is the wether with his bell who leads all the rest."

The following sketch of Lord Townshend as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is drawn by T. Waite, who writes in November, 1769:—

"His Exc^o familiarizes himself too much to all Ranks & Degrees of People. His excess of good Nature subjects him to be treated with great Freedom. He walks about the Streets like one of us, goes into a Booksellers Shop, talks with Every One he meets whom he happens to know, without considering that we are not used to such Condescensions, & have not Strength of Mind to bear them with Decency. But with all his Oddities & Irregularities He is as honest a Man as ever existed, & has the most pure & upright Intentions towards all."

A good account of court life in Denmark by Dudley Cosby, our envoy there, is too

long for quotation. The dinners and suppers are described as really sumptuous and elegant, though too abundant in victuals, being served "not in the filthy manner you see gaudy entertainments in France, but with a neatness & decorum that comes very near the tables of our English noblemen."

The last hundred pages of this volume, exclusive of the index filling sixty pages, contain abstracts by the Rev. J. A. Bennett of letters addressed to Sir John Digby when ambassador at Madrid in 1611 and 1612, from a register belonging to Mr. Wingfield Digby, of Sherborne Castle. These have many points of interest; but we must conclude with a brief commendation of the handier and more readable form in which the Historical Commissioners are now publishing the results of their researches into private archives.

Sermons. By Mark Pattison. (Macmillan & Co.)

THERE has been no time within the last few years when a volume of discourses by the late Rector of Lincoln would not have attracted attention; partly because of the charm of his terse and vigorous English, and partly because of a natural curiosity as to the latest theological utterances of a man who had yielded in his earlier days to the personal influence of the great leader of the Oxford movement, and had afterwards contributed to 'Essays and Reviews.' But the interest attaching to this volume has been heightened by the recent revelation of the preacher's character as he himself depicted it in his 'Memoirs'; and readers who have been repelled by the traces of the petty jealousy and morbid self-consciousness which he determined to put on record, and have been tempted to take him at his own valuation, will be surprised by the earnestness of thought and real depth of feeling which characterize these pages. The discourses one and all, but especially those preached in Lincoln Chapel, are marked by the one quality which renders a modern sermon worth reading, for they convey the impression that the preacher had something to say about which he was in earnest, and which he tried to say as well as he could.

The sermons are selected from those he preached at dates ranging from 1847 to 1871. The earliest in date is, perhaps, the gem of the collection; it is one of those addresses to his pupils which cost him, as he has told us, much care and thought. One of the undergraduate members of the college had been accidentally drowned while bathing in the Isis, and on the following Sunday Pattison preached from the words, "If one member suffer, all the members suffer with it." The language in which he dwells on the loss they had sustained, and the train of thought he pursues in pointing out the import of the event for his hearers personally and as members of the college, are most striking. Very rarely has a sermon on such a theme embodied so much wisdom or given utterance to such real pathos.

Another of the college sermons is of peculiar interest from the warm way in which it commends self-improvement as a ruling motive of life, for it helps the reader to understand the principle on which Pattison deliberately framed his own course:—

"To be more explicit as to the mode in which this is to be done—in which the recognition of God and the world to come is to be made the quickening principle through which we are to be carried forward over the single steps even of our course of study. We will suppose then a student entering on his course here, and pausing to deliberate which of the objects for which a course of systematic reading can be carried on is the object he ought to propose to himself—what is the one true guiding idea of our education. He will come to his deliberation with two points granted—one, a very general one, something to the effect that the true business of man on earth is a preparation for a life to come: one, on the other hand, a knowledge of the special fact that a certain number of books or subjects are proposed to him to be thoroughly learnt during his residence here.....He resolves then to enter on the duties of the place from one of the inferior motives which offer themselves abundantly on all sides—from mixed motives we will suppose, some better, some worse—as the desire of the honours of the university, the wish for self-improvement, all backed up by his general wish to do what is approved by his friends and those to whom he looks up. As he goes on in his course, he is gradually and experimentally testing the worth of these secondary and mediate motives, and he finds that some of them, that, e.g., derived from the desire of distinction, is a personal, selfish, temporal object, which ends in itself and will not connect with his general aim—his preparation for a future state of being,—while on the other hand the desire of self-improvement, which entered as an element into his first confused compound motive, will gradually expand and advance towards his first principle, will mediate and serve as a bond of union between his general aim and the special duties in which he finds himself engaged by his position here. This is the general history of the justification of motive, of the way in which secondary and confined aims are by a sincere and unselfish heart slowly thrown off, and opened out into abiding and eternal ones."

He returns to the subject again and again in considering the special functions of university education; but the long passage we have quoted is of peculiar interest, as he seems to have unbosomed himself to his pupils and portrayed the leading principle of his life far more faithfully than he has done in any passage of the 'Memoirs.'

Of the university sermons the most striking are the sixth, seventh, and eighth, which were preached at considerable intervals of time, but which all treated of the relations of Christianity and philosophy at different periods. The one which deals with the early Church and Greek philosophy is an excellent sketch, and contains Pattison's opinions on a somewhat trite subject expressed with great freshness and vigour:—

"The so-called eclecticism was not a system of elected truths, but so much of the whole result of a nation's thinking as had survived in the way of natural selection—that which was rational and universal had lived, that which was imaginative and peculiar had died out. This rational residuum of centuries of Greek mental activity was the philosophy in which Christianity recognized at once its own elements. This surprising phenomenon—that a religious reform which, wherever it came from, came from outside the pale of liberal culture—that this religious reform was found by the philosophic culture of the second century to be identical with itself in all its chief elements,—this was a phenomenon which could not but attract the attention of observant men and invite an explanation."

It is surprising that the review of Christian thought, which is admirable so far as it goes, breaks off abruptly without mentioning the

name of Augustine, the African doctor in whose writings the synthesis of Christianity and philosophy became complete.

The two remaining sermons of this brief series deal with much more modern times—they bring the reader to the period which had furnished the materials for Mark Pattison's contribution to the 'Essays and Reviews.' In those sermons he shows how current English theology had been formed in accordance with the conception of nature as a *theodæte*, and how in recent years the advance of knowledge and the doctrine of evolution had altered the scientific idea of nature, but that theology had not been modified so as to suit the new conditions. The next sermon continues the theme by tracing the religious movements which have diverted public interest from that evidential preaching that was the chief employment of the pulpits of the eighteenth century. It might be described as a first sketch of an attempt to answer the question which he had stated in 1860 when he wrote in his essay:—

"Whoever would take the religious literature of the present day as a whole, and endeavour to make out clearly on what basis Revelation is supposed by it to rest, whether on Authority, on the Inward Light, on Reason, on self-evidencing Scripture, or on the combination of the four, or of some of them, and in what proportions, would probably find that he had undertaken a perplexing but not altogether profitless inquiry."

One who had been in such close contact with various schools of religious thought had special advantages for prosecuting such an investigation, and it is interesting to notice by hints here and there how deep and lasting was the impression which had been made on his mind by his close intercourse with Cardinal Newman.

But these sermons are often particularly charming from the vigour of the language in which he discusses some familiar topic. Where shall we find a more scathing and yet more truthful delineation of undergraduate life?—

"Instead of a liberal curiosity, intellectual tastes, studious habits, and the frugal self-control of the scholar; instead of our ardour to teach being met by an equal ardour to learn, we find we have to do with ignorance, stupidity, sensual tastes, laziness, indifference, an effeminate passion for amusement, self-indulgent habits, listless, aimless temperaments, inert rather than vicious, unenergetic, unheroic, unimpassioned. When to the generation of the stupid, the insensible, and the frivolous is added those whose understanding is frost-bound by the prejudices of a narrow sphere, or an artificial theological system, and those to whom the university course is a pecuniary speculation, the remnant is small indeed of those with whom we can hope to establish that intellectual sympathy between young and old which is the instrument of intellectual culture. When our duties appear to us in this humiliating light, we are not to shrink from them in despair. No man in God's world is above doing the work to which God has called him."

And for the older members of the university, too, he had weighty words:—

"For our function here is not only to teach but to learn. We can only successfully teach while we are learning. And this learning, for us the teachers, does not consist in reading new books, in making fresh experiments, in mastering novel fields of facts, but in nourishing the intellect by the old springs of wisdom, by the contemplation of the eternal truths of religion,

by prayer and spiritual exercise, maintaining the thought at an habitual level above earthly things. Unless our teaching be seconded by the interior discipline of our own life, it will be but sounding words. Only so far as we ourselves are treading this heavenward path, are reserving some portion of the day for severe study, for self-communing, for the presence of God, for bracing and healthy mental discipline, for withdrawal from the trivial topics of the street and the market, only so far can we hope that our teaching will penetrate to the inner mind of our pupils, or kindle in them congenial aspirations."

Surely Fichte himself had not a higher ideal of the life of the student or of his duties as a teacher than is sketched in these sentences.

The Complete Works of W. M. Thackeray.—Vol. XXVI. *Contributions to Punch.* (Smith, Elder & Co.)

THERE is no doubt that the ghoul who is understood to be the first cause of these two volumes of reprints has deserved, and will receive, the detestation of all true lovers of Thackeray. The first of them was thin enough, as we noted at the time; the second is meagre to a degree. With the exception (perhaps) of Miss Tickletoy's contributions to the literature of English history, the matter of which it is composed is in Thackeray's poorest strain, and deserved no better than to be hurried out of sight and forgotten. It all appeared in *Punch*, and in *Punch* it might well have remained. It is not interesting to anybody, nor will it profit the author's reputation. Like the 'Mudfog Papers' of Charles Dickens, the 'Œuvres de Jeunesse' of Honoré de Balzac, the 'Zastrozzi' of Percy Shelley, it was born for oblivion, and to pervert its destiny is to do a cruel thing to the man who produced it. It is decent journalism, but it is no more than decent journalism; and to reprint it solemnly, with dates, in a big book, as the last volume of an *édition définitive*, is pushing the editorial function a little far. Of course it could not be helped. It had to be done officially, or somebody would have done it unofficially; it is a formal exhumation, with a view to spoiling the career of the body-snatcher. But the results are scarcely less depressing than the necessity that hatched them. It is impossible to deny that the *fin mot* of the affair was spoken long ago by Captain Shandy, in connexion with a work which the divine Smelfungus composed the day he was born.

It is not that the book is more intolerable reading than the majority of its kind. Indeed, it is better work than, for instance, 'Le Centenaire' and 'Argow le Pirate,' and the reprinted pieces of the late Albert Smith. But it is not good enough to be Thackeray's—to take its place on the same shelf with 'Barry Lyndon' and 'Vanity Fair,' and rank as the twenty-sixth volume of a series which includes 'Esmond' and 'The Book of Snobs.' With these masterpieces it has nothing save its origin in common. Thackeray wrote it, and Thackeray wrote the others, just as Dickens wrote 'The Mudfog Papers' as well as 'Martin Chuzzlewit.' For the publication of such youthful indiscretions there is really no excuse. They are of interest to none save the

inquiring critic, and the inquiring critic can hunt them down for himself. The general public does not want them, and is wise in its indifference. The Thackeray it knows and loves is no halting journalist, but one of the masters of British fiction; and we suspect it would much prefer to remain in ignorance of the fact that the author it reveres could on occasion, and did actually, write as pointlessly as the average reviewer of novels, as rapidly as the common anonymous purveyor of comic copy. Thackeray himself appears to have respected this feeling, and to have edited himself with the wisest discretion, the profoundest self-respect. He did not choose to include in his 'Ballads' such verse as 'The Flying Duke' and 'The Froddylent Butler'; and he was right. He rejected from his 'Book of Snobs' his disquisitions on Whig and Tory snobs, his onslaught on the snob civilian, and his letter addressed to "Mr. Smith, the celebrated penny-a-liner," on some literary varieties of the species—on the noble Macau, who is Croker, the splendid Bendigo de Minorities, who is Disraeli; and he was right again. Having written a book about his trip from Cornhill to Cairo, he thought right to bury his 'Punch in the East'; and he was right. He would have none of Miss Tickletoy in volume form; and, amusing as that estimable creature sometimes is, her creator did well to think of her as mere journalism, and not to constrain her to do duty as literature. It is the same with all the rest; with the exception, it may be, of the epitaphs on the four Georges and the review of N. P. Willis, it had far better have been left in darkness. That was Thackeray's view, and his view is correct.

The dozen or so of caricatures with which the selection concludes are probably the worst things of all. Thackeray could always write; he could not always draw. These were drawn by him when he would have been better employed in writing.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Othmar. By Ouida. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

At the Red Glove. By Katharine S. Macquoid. 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

A Strange Voyage. By W. Clark Russell. 3 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

A Woman with a Secret. By Paul Cushing. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

The Ghost of an Old Love. By Violet Whyte. 3 vols. (White & Co.)

Hidden from the World. By A. J. Marks. 3 vols. (Bevington & Co.)

The Head Station: a Novel of Australian Life. By Mrs. Campbell-Præd. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

Her Success. By Annie Thomas. 3 vols. (White & Co.)

Margaret Grantley: a Study in Black and White. By L. Higgin. 2 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Bonnyborough. By Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney. 2 vols. (Longmans & Co.)

A Social Experiment. By A. E. P. Searing. (Putnam's Sons.)

SOME time ago, it may be remembered, Ouida wrote under the title of 'Princess Napraxine' a novel describing a particularly odious woman. She seems to have been so

pleased with her heroine that she has favoured her readers with a continuation of that person's history. It is necessary to explain this, since most of the characters in the new story are presented to the reader without any formal introduction, as though he were assumed to know all about them. This is, perhaps, a somewhat bold assumption on the author's part, for Ouida's characters are not as a rule exactly of the sort that remain distinct and unobliterated for long in the reader's mind. However, we have a dim remembrance of Princess Napraxine's husband being killed in a duel, and Othmar's wife committing suicide—we forget why, but it was something to do with the princess; and now the bereaved couple appear to have found some sort of consolation in each other. They seem, indeed, to get on best apart, differing as they do on every conceivable question of morals and manners; but that is Ouida's idea of the way the best kind of married people live in high cosmopolitan circles. The Countess Othmar again contrives to be more or less responsible for driving an innocent girl to suicide, and demeans herself generally in an unpleasant and—if such a thing were possible to a heroine of Ouida's—vulgar way. The story is told in the author's inimitable style, with perhaps fewer blunders than usual, and certainly fewer classical allusions. One of the foulest legends of antiquity is, however, once dragged in by way of illustration, and the author betrays some acquaintance with some of the more disreputable of modern French novels. Her knowledge of other literature is equally copious, if we may judge from the list of authors whom she makes her peasant heroine study. These comprise "Corneille, Racine, Lamartine, Lamotte, Fouquet, La Fontaine," and of their works "Athalie," 'Attila,' 'Cinna,' 'Sintram.' What "a copy of the 'Terentii Comedie' of 1552 by Roger Payne" may be like it is hard to conjecture; and it would be interesting to know what notion Ouida has formed of Roger Payne's occupation and date. "A volume bound by Clovis" would indeed be an archaeological treasure; but why not "bound by Eve" at once? That would be still better. In spite, however, of these and other beauties, the present story will hardly enhance Ouida's reputation. She has perhaps been hampered by the necessity for filling three volumes. At any rate, she has taken up an undue proportion of space with moralizing, which is never her strong point; and, not to put too fine a point upon it, she has gone very near to writing a dull book.

Mrs. Macquoid's new story is pleasantly and aptly French. Capt. Loigerot, Madame Bobineau, and Marie herself are typical specimens of their country. Interesting as these types are, the reader's interest will be more excited in favour of Madame Carouge, the noblewoman who by stress of circumstances is forced at the age of eighteen to marry an hotel-keeper of Berne, and at that of twenty-eight pines for the love she has not known in her youth. On the whole it is a pretty story.

'A Strange Voyage' is quite as interesting as most of Mr. Clark Russell's sea novels, and one episode in it is as good as anything he has written. Nothing could be more vivid than his account of the towing of a

big disabled steamer by a sailing vessel during a wild night; the reader feels that it will stick in his memory like Mr. Russell's description of a tornado in the Pacific in one of his earlier books. Mr. Russell is always best when he is at sea and on deck; the fault of 'A Strange Voyage' is that there are too many women on board, and the gossip and quarrelling of the passengers are rather wearisome. To be sure, he has to vary the framework of his stories, and the narrator cannot always be one of the ship's officers; but Mr. Russell's books fortunately do not depend on the love affairs put into them. Every sort of sailor he can describe and make lifelike and distinctive; but he never succeeds with other folks. In 'A Strange Voyage' he avoids the mistake of making too long an introduction, and begins his preparations for a cruise at once. This is certainly his best plan, and when he is off let him keep afloat. It is one of the merits of the present book that it ends with the voyage.

There is little resemblance between the abrupt and melodramatic method of Mr. Cushing and the analytic processes characteristic of several leading American novelists. On the other hand, the author of 'A Woman with a Secret' exhibits a remarkable intellectual affinity with Winthrop, whose brilliant promise was abruptly cut short in the Civil War. We notice the same clever but strained dialogue, the same crudity of plot and clumsiness of detail, that make the strength and weakness of 'Cecil Dreeme' and 'John Brent.' Winthrop was fond of importing his own versatility into his characters, and for versatility it would be hard to find a counterpart in fiction or fact for Gilbert White. We greatly appreciate Mr. Cushing's handsome way of speaking of the old country and English society, but we venture to doubt whether one of our old county families is or ever has been capable of evolving such a combination as that of *Oxford wrangler*, bohemian, professor of disguise, and finished gentleman all rolled into one. This strange personage's habit of swearing in "mellifluous Tuscan" and invoking blessings in sonorous Hebrew is also worthy of note. Mr. Cushing is altogether too fond of making his characters turn sudden somersaults, and this abruptness lends a great unreality to many passages in an undoubtedly clever novel. A more jarring note still is struck by constant allusions to dress and upholstery at inappropriate moments. The sentiment of one scene is entirely spoilt by the mention of the heroine's "faintly scented handkerchief" and "crystal chronometer." The writer cannot speak of the opening of a dressing case without informing us that it was of heavy silver. Worst of all is the grotesque description of one of the special attractions of the heroine as her "magnificent subcutaneous glow." A powerful picture of a dream is turned to bathos by the comment of the dreamer: "'I must have something to steady my shattered nerves,' he soliloquized, crossing the room and pressing the button of an electric bell." Perhaps these criticisms are insular and prejudiced, but it is to be feared that English readers will be blinded to the solid merits of 'A Woman with a Secret' by its more obvious solecisms in taste and defects in construction.

'The Ghost of an Old Love' is a fair specimen of that class of novel which treats of flirtations in country houses. There is no lack of vivacious damsels, gallant officers, or accommodating chaperons, and the author's method is thoroughly well suited to the light themes she has chosen to handle. Of course there is a temporary lapse into the minor key, as in the modern ballad, and the easy-going father is suddenly converted into a miserly tyrant. The domestic economies practised by a once generous man whose brain has been affected are not a very pleasing subject, nor are they happily treated. The dialogue, though excessively modern and inclined to be flippant, is natural enough, and no great gift of divination is needed to predict the popularity of 'The Ghost of an Old Love' amongst female readers of a sentimental turn.

For sheer silliness, vulgarity, and ignorance we doubt whether 'Hidden from the World' could be surpassed in the whole field of penny fiction or servants' hall romance. The hapless reader wallows in a sea of titles from the very outset—the author has to invent some eighteen in the first 150 pages—and the lives of the aristocracy are described with a minuteness only equalled by its preposterous inaccuracy. Seen through the distorting medium of the author's imagination, the English peer is either a model of Christian chivalry or a satanic ruffian, like the Duke of Ellstree, who "nobbles" his own horse on the eve of the Derby. Lady Winifred Bellair, who is gifted with a rich soprano voice, and, in consequence, follows the rule observable in such novels of singing contralto songs, is addressed as "Miss Winnie" by her nurse, and evinces her independent spirit by making assignations with Mr. Cecil Fernandez, one of the few commoners included in the *dramatis personæ*, at Baker Street Station or the Bank of England. Her aunt is indifferently styled Lady Mary Worby or the Countess of Worby. The style of conversation adopted by these exalted personages may be gathered from one brief extract: "'In what direction lies your destination, madam?' inquired Cecil, almost coldly." A lady's drawing-room is termed "tasty," an epithet which is in itself enough to condemn a book the appearance of which in three-volume form is little short of a phenomenon.

Mrs. Campbell-Præd's story introduces us to many pairs or combinations of lovers; but it is a remarkable fact that scarcely one of the men and women who play a part in this phantasmagoria of misplaced affection nurses an exclusive passion. Almost everybody has been somebody else's wife or husband, or has flirted with one or more of the other characters; and the reader is not surprised to find that nobody is satisfied in the end unless his or her obstacle is removed by death from his or her path, or unless, as happens in more than one case, he or she is content with a second-best love. The strength of delineation displayed in some of the author's former stories has been notably diminished by being spread over a wider field. Instead of a bold study of a single character placed amidst unconventional surroundings, we have several studies, and the surroundings are some-

what commonplace. The local colour is added with considerable taste. There is an ideal bushranger; and a very familiar type of backwoodsman turns out to be an English gentleman of family, who had been driven from home by an unjust accusation of forgery, and is recalled to wealth and happiness in a most romantic fashion. The story is lively, and not without pathos; but Mrs. Campbell-Præd has written better.

Olive Farquar is the young woman whose fortunes Miss Thomas pursues, and whose success she describes. The reader will be puzzled to know as he follows her sordid career from chapter to chapter what success this heartless creature could possibly achieve; and indeed it would have been scarcely pardonable in the author to leave her married and happy in the ordinary fashion of the heroines of three-volume novels. On the other hand, her punishment is too severe for justice, and too unconsequential to be accepted as a natural transcript from everyday life. Olive, it must be confessed, is a most unpleasant girl, and does not elicit any sympathy until she meets her doom. There are some far more attractive characters in the book, both men and women; but they are only the major and minor satellites who move round the central star, attracted to it by a force of fascination which varies inversely as their distance and gravity.

The author of 'Margaret Grantley' tells the oft-told tale of a girl condemned to a solitary existence by the fact of one of her parents having died mad. There is usually in such stories a great deal of unreal sentiment, and a tendency to make too much out of commonplace situations. L. Higgin does not avoid these pitfalls in relating the life history of the unfortunate Margaret. Margaret has a lover; he is fickle by nature, and, when he hears of the obstacle which forbids him to be true to his plighted word, he marries her intimate friend and is happy. Dr. Grantley, the heroine's father, suffered this misery to come upon her instead of warning her in good time, and fares almost better than he deserves in having a tender daughter to nurse him in his blindness and old age. It would be harsh to dismiss this "study in black and white" as a mere commonplace story, for it has its good points. But a strong hand would be needed to get anything very new out of such materials.

'Bonnyborough' is a sort of American "Sunday book" on a larger scale. The distinguishing mark of such books is religion tempered by good things to eat and brisk attention to household duties. The lighter parts of Mrs. Whitney's book depend upon such small jests as can be got out of funny names. This form of joke is not particularly exhilarating. The heroine's name is Peace Polly, and her half-brother calls her Peace Porridge. Once in a way such a witticism might have passed, but it hardly bears iteration. Mrs. Whitney is of opinion that there is everything in names, and the object of her book seems to be to show their influence on character. But she goes even further, for the story itself hangs upon the fact that the heroine is called Peace and her lover Comfort. The book is not amusing, and though dogmatic it is not instructive. One aphorism may be quoted as a specimen:

"Nobody will ever be a Prayer-book Christian till they have experienced the Prayer-book." Such truths are more impressive in form than in meaning.

There is nothing particularly original in the experiment of making a silk purse out of a sow's ear, and this is the sort of experiment Miss Searing has narrated. She is unnecessarily cruel in pointing the moral by killing her heroine, a poor country girl whom a fashionable lady takes up and tries to convert into a town belle. Miss Searing must be careful of her quotations. It will not do to say "et timeo Danaos, dona ferentes."

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Archipelago on Fire. By Jules Verne. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Afloat: a Story. By the Author of 'The Caged Linnet.' (Shaw & Son.)

Her Husband's Home; or, the Durlays of Linley Castle. By Evelyn Everett-Green. (Same publishers.)

Margaret Casson's Resolve: a Tale of Victory. By E. C. Kenyon. (Same publishers.)

On the Cliff; or, Alice's Neighbours. By Catherine Shaw. (Same publishers.)

Prudence Winterburn. By Sarah Doudney. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

The Pedlar and his Dog. By Mary C. Rowsell. (Blackie & Son.)

Please tell Me a Tale. By S. Baring Gould and Others. (Skeffington & Son.)

Little Tottie, and Two other Stories. Told by Thomas Archer. (Same publishers.)

The Lion Battalion, and other Stories. By M. E. Hullah. (Hatchards.)

Three Martyrs of the Nineteenth Century. By the Author of 'Chronicles of the Schönberg-Cotta Family.' (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

The Mountain. By Jules Michelet. With numerous Illustrations. (Nelson & Sons.)

A Sea Change. By Flora L. Shaw. (Routledge & Sons.)

In the Brave Days of Old: the Story of the Crusades. By Henry Frith. (Same publishers.)

Her Gentle Deeds. By Sarah Tytler. (Isbister.)

At Granny's; or, Ten Days without Father and Mother. (Masters & Co.)

Twilight Tales. By Mrs. Edward Kennard. (Chapman & Hall.)

Dreams by a French Fireside: Fairy Tales. Translated from the German of Richard Leander (Prof. R. Volkmann) by Mary O'Callaghan. (Same publishers.)

Halcyon and Asphodel, and other Stories. By A. L. H. A. (Hatchards.)

The New River: a Romance of the Time of Hugh Myddelton. By Edward Fitzgibbon. (Ward & Downey.)

My Mistress the Queen: a Tale of the Seventeenth Century. By M. A. Paull. (Blackie & Son.)

Miss Grantley's Girls, and the Stories She told Them. By Thomas Archer. (Same publishers.)

Debbie Fennimore: a Tale of Country-Town Children. By S. K. Hutton. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

Thrown on the World; or, the Scrapes and 'Scapes of Ray and Bertie. By Edwin Hodder. (Same publishers.)

A Little Silver Trumpet. By L. T. Meade. (Same publishers.)

Famous Caves and Catacombs. Described and illustrated by W. H. Davenport Adams. (Nelson & Sons.)

JULES VERNE has written several stories which were obviously incredible. In the present instance he has produced one which is only highly improbable. It is by no means one of his best. The scene is laid in the Grecian Archipelago

during the War of Independence, its chief hero being an unmitigated scoundrel, a traitor to his country, a pirate, and a slave-dealer. He amasses wealth, and, of course, is killed just when he is on the eve of triumph. Lord Palmerston used to say that one of the uses of war was to teach geography. Those who study Jules Verne's book with an atlas will be perfect in the knowledge of that of modern Greece. The illustrations are good.

Mrs. Stanley Leather's 'Afloat' is an attractive story, somewhat sensational in incident. Sim Garland, a fisherman, and Mary his wife and Marigold their daughter lived in the end of a boat by the sea. Sim called his cot "The Cosy," and it was as warm and clean and comfortable and happy as a handy man and a good woman could make it. Ill luck comes to "The Cosy" in the shape of a spiteful "innocent," Noodle Nick. The wicked imp takes advantage of Mrs. Garland's illness to wreck the cot and send little Marigold "afloat." After much time and toil and trouble and many a strange coincidence and turn of fortune all things are set right; but the chronicle of events is well worth reading.

'Her Husband's Home' is a pleasant tale of English family life. The interest turns on a misunderstanding, born of their different natures, between Eugénie Durlay and her mother-in-law. The two slowly draw together, and so the story is made.

'Margaret Casson's Resolve' is a very "superior" story. Margaret is a very superior young woman; her resolve is to do her duty as a Christian, and she never forgets how significant are her acts. She gives up a comfortable home and income to rescue and support a drunken father, and her efforts are rewarded with success; but she is so self-conscious that she wears the reader.

Miss Shaw's 'On the Cliff' is rather a confused story, in feeble imitation of Miss Yonge. There are three houses on the cliff, the inhabitants are all related, and the complications of the relationships are endless. There is a curious Indian nurse, whose name is Salome, and who talks like a negress.

Miss Doudney dedicates her latest book, 'Prudence Winterburn,' "to girls who, like Prudence Winterburn, are ready to devote themselves, with romantic self-sacrifice, to a newly made friend." Prudence may be worthy of the post of heroine, but she is a very silly girl, and Josephine Chafford for an adventuress is a poor sort of creature.

Miss Rowsell is good in an historical story, and there is much that is interesting and amusing in 'The Pedlar and his Dog,' but the dream system is somewhat fanciful; moreover, John Pennycuik the pedlar seems to imagine that Sir Richard Whittington is a kind of perennial.

'Please tell Me a Tale' is a pretty collection of short original stories for children from four to ten years of age by various authors. The names of Miss Yonge and Mr. Baring Gould are a sufficient passport to the book.

Mr. Thomas Archer's Little Tottie is a poor little child of the London slums. A crèche shelters her and brings her happiness.

Among the mass of mediocre books hurled upon the children of the day it is a real pleasure to recognize a master hand. Miss Hullah in 'The Lion Battalion, and other Stories,' has produced something original and charming. Little Peter Gottlieb reminds the reader of one of Hans Andersen's children. Miss Hullah is delightful as a story-teller, and it is to be hoped that 'The Lion Battalion,' which is not her first story, will by no means be her last.

The author of 'The Schönberg-Cotta Family' gives us in 'Three Martyrs of the Nineteenth Century' the lives of Dr. Livingstone, General Gordon, and Bishop Patteson. Such heroic matter is congenial to her pen. She links together the three martyrs by showing how "the Dragon in conflict with which the three heroes, Livingstone, Patteson, and Gordon, fell was

essentially the same, the enslaving of the weaker races by the stronger."

Michelet's 'Mountain' is too well known for comment. The translation seems to be fairly executed; but the weak point of books which blend sentiment and science after this fashion is that they tend to become obsolete in both capacities.

Miss Flora Shaw's 'A Sea Change' is a pretty story, with a plot which is a curious combination. The scene throughout is an interior—it is mostly, indeed, laid in a London schoolroom—but round about pupils and teachers floats an atmosphere of wild and stirring adventures and marvellous coincidences. Marina, over whom comes the sea change, is a winsome little creature, and her faithful squire, Lord James Egerton, the nonchalant fine gentleman with the heart of gold, is one of the most attractive of his class, not an uncommon one in fiction.

In Mr. Frith's volume, 'In the Brave Days of Old,' "the ever-interesting story of the Crusades," says the writer, "has been told with as much lightness and as much adventurous detail as is deemed consistent with such a purely historical subject." We regret that we can neither approve of Mr. Frith's method nor enjoy its results. To narrate in three hundred pages lightly and with adventurous detail the history of the centuries of the Crusades seems to us to be a task impossible—it ought never to be attempted. The illustrations are curiously unequal in merit. The quaint old reprints have a value of their own, but of the fanciful pictures there is nothing very good to be said.

Miss Sarah Tytler is an old and tried friend, and her books for girls are admirable. It suffices to say that 'Her Gentle Deeds' is worthy of her name and fame. Kiraten Stewart, the doer of the gentle deeds, is a noble woman, and her adopted children, Katie, Beville, and Sa, are a quaint little trio, and very brave in all their trials.

Miss Edgeworth and Mrs. Marcet wear a rare gift of detail. They were never wearisome, never irrelevant. Most modern writers for little children fall into both faults; for instance, 'At Granny's; or, Ten Days without Father and Mother,' is an elaborate chronicle of the scrapes of two little children, aged five and six respectively. It does not strike us as being amusing, and we are unable to conceive that it can serve any useful end.

Mrs. Edward Kennard's 'Twilight Tales' is a volume of stories about animals, half fanciful and quite fascinating. Our only complaint is that the tone is often too sad. The death of the poor old dog fox is a piteous tale.

Miss O'Callaghan's translation of 'Dreams by a French Fireside' proves to be a really charming volume of fairy tales. The book grew, says the writer, out of love for German manners and German customs. It was written during the siege of Paris in 1870. "Now and then, when the snow was flying out of doors, he took his pen and tried to scribble with hasty lines..... dream figures upon the paper; and the war mail carried the light delineations faithfully home to his wife, to whom this little book is dedicated." It is a remarkable book, now bold and striking in thought, now dreamy and weird, and always graceful.

'Halcyon and Asphodel,' a book of fairy tales of English growth, is not particularly attractive; the fairy machinery is somewhat clumsy, and there is none of the poetic feeling of the German book.

Mr. Fitzgibbon's 'The New River: a Romance of the Time of Hugh Myddelton' is an exciting work, somewhat after the style of Harrison Ainsworth. There is a pair of lovers and there is a villain; the course of true love runs side by side with the New River, and the villain who seeks to part the lovers seeks also to ruin Hugh Myddelton's scheme; but with the aid of a wise simpleton and his dog—an uncanny pair—virtue is triumphant.

Another historical tale is 'My Mistress

the Queen,' a pretty story in the form of an autobiography written by Mistress Frances Heber, who went to Holland in the train of the Princess Mary, wife of William of Orange, and afterwards Queen of England.

Miss Grantley's girls were philanthropic schoolgirls who worked for a bazaar, and as they stitched their governess told them a batch of stories, and very pretty stories too.

'Dessie Fennimore: a Tale of Country-Town Children,' is a chronicle of every-day life in the early part of this century. It is quaint and pretty, but the trial of Mr. Fennimore, the librarian, is a somewhat startling incident.

Mr. Hodder's 'Thrown on the World' is a book for boys, stirring and exciting. The heroes, Ray and Bertie, are thrown on the world in early childhood. Their father and mother, Anglo-Russians living in Moscow, become involved in the Nihilist troubles, and, though innocent, are sent to Siberia. The children drift into the great Foundling Hospital of Moscow, and have the luck to be adopted by a rich English visitor, Mr. Barnabas Birtles, tea merchant, of London. Birtles is a merchant prince, and he brings the lads up with great generosity and judgment. When they leave school they make the grand tour, with an excellent though absent-minded tutor. They have many adventures in many lands, and the last adventure of all restores them to their parents.

Miss Meade's 'A Little Silver Trumpet' is a pathetic story, charmingly illustrated by T. Pym. Little Johnnie Cleaver is a hero, and goes near to being a martyr, only that luck turns at the end.

'Famous Caves and Catacombs,' by Mr. Davenport Adams, gives "an account of the most famous caves and cave-temples in the world." There are numerous illustrations.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THERE are always some people who are ready at any moment to prove that the world is flat or that the Lost Tribes have been found, and in the same way since the days of De Guignes there have not been wanting persons who hold that the priest Hwui-shān of the fifth century was the first discoverer of America. The last disciple of this school is Mr. Vining, the author of *An Inglorious Columbus* (New York, Appleton & Co.), who has collected in that work, with more labour than profit, all the published opinions on the subject, both for and against his theory, and who rises from a survey of them fully convinced that the laurels worn by Columbus should rest on the brow of Hwui-shān. The whole theory is based on a statement which is reported to have been made by the priest Hwui-shān, who in 499 A.D. arrived at King-chow, in the Chinese province of Hu-kwang, from, as he said, the kingdom of Fusang. This country he affirmed was situated 20,000 Chinese miles to the east of Ta-han (in Korea), and was named from the fusang trees with which it abounds. He described this tree as resembling the t'ung tree, as bearing a fruit like the pear, and as having a bark from which the natives make cloth and a species of brocade. Some of the customs of the people of the land were identical with those of the Chinese, and others were unlike anything that has been known to exist anywhere. The narrative has been reproduced in several histories and encyclopædias, and the text—consisting of only 453 Chinese characters—here translated in the celebrated work of Ma Tswan-lin, which was published about 1321. The story reaches us, therefore, through many hands, and it is quite possible that many of the improbabilities now found in it may have been inserted by unfaithful wonder-loving scribes. On the other hand, it is not unlikely that there existed a kindred spirit between the Egyptian priest who described the island of Atlantis to Solon and the Buddhist priest who brought the report of Fusang to the people of King-chow. Unfortunately there is

no more direct correlation between veracity and priestly garments than there is, as we know on high authority, between "eyelashes and morality," and we should require something more than Hwui-shān's unsupported testimony to make it worth while to try to reconcile many of his apparently irreconcilable statements. It should be mentioned that the name of Fusang was known in China long before the time of Hwui-shān, and that the country so called was always spoken of as the land where the sun rose. It was also an ancient name for Japan, which has the alternative name of "the land of the rising sun." The distance, 20,000 Chinese miles, said by Hwui-shān to separate Fusang and Ta-han need not offer any difficulty to the identification of some part of Japan with Fusang, since Chinamen treat numbers as unknown quantities; but if the least credit is to be given to the narrative it would be necessary to suppose that the country described by the priest was one of the northern islands belonging to Japan, possibly Saghalien, since he speaks of the natives having carts drawn by horses, cattle, and deer. But it is as unnecessary to attempt to fix the locality of Hwui-shān's Fusang as it would be to search after the "Kingdom of Women," which he further describes as being 1,000 Chinese miles to the east of Fusang. The idea of America being meant by Fusang cannot be treated seriously. It is a hobby-horse, which Mr. Vining rides with laborious diligence, and which will probably continue to afford mounts to such other persons as find attractions in the marvellous which they fail to discover in sober history.

Wallenstein. By Friedrich Schiller. Done into English Verse by J. A. W. Hunter. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)—In some respects Coleridge's rendering of 'Wallenstein' is one of the best poetical translations in the English language. Unfortunately, however, Coleridge did not translate 'Wallenstein's Lager,' which is by far the finest part of the work; and in his version of the 'Piccolomini' and 'Wallenstein's Tod' he was occasionally guilty, as he himself admitted, of "dilating the original." Perhaps, therefore, there was room for a new translation. Mr. Hunter has done his work very well; not, indeed, as a poet would have done it, but conscientiously and with adequate scholarship. He reflects Schiller's ideas accurately, and he does so in verse which is generally very much better than the verse of the majority of English translators. In an introductory essay he sets forth briefly the facts of Wallenstein's career, and offers some suggestions as to Schiller's treatment of the subject. Most of his criticisms are just and discriminating, and will be of considerable service to readers who may need a little help in the effort to appreciate "a noble and original work of genius."

Two collections of sea stories sent by Messrs. Chatto & Windus render possible a comparison between the indefatigable Mr. Clark Russell and a competitor, Mr. James Runciman. Mr. Russell with his *In the Middle Watch* need not fear Mr. Runciman with *Skippers and Shellbacks*. Both writers have the cardinal virtue of knowledge of their subject; but Mr. Russell has a gift of description and a literary facility which Mr. Runciman has not. Mr. Runciman, however, writes with much force because as a rule he is content to describe tersely what he thoroughly understands, and some of his stories are very well invented; but they are rougher in diction than Mr. Russell's, and at times they are too brutal. Mr. Runciman has a cordial hatred for the sailor of the music-halls, and neither of the writers gives a very pleasant view of the real sailor's life. Mr. Russell never tires of saying that nobody would begin to be a sailor if he could know what was before him, or remain a sailor if he could be anything else.

MESSRS. ROUTLEDGE & SONS continue to send us additional volumes of their delightful "Pocket

Library." An extremely neat edition of *Hood's Comic Poems* and a reprint of *Dickens's Christmas Carol* that cannot fail to be popular are the latest arrivals.

The pocket-books, almanacs, and date cards of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. have the perfection that practice is said to give. They are as ornamental and luxurious as such things can be without ceasing to be useful.—We have to thank Messrs. T. J. & J. Smith for a quantity of diaries, pocket-books, calendars, and other publications of a similar kind, all of them arranged with a keen eye to the wants of men of business. The scribbling diaries issued by this firm deserve particular praise.

We have also received the new *Post Office Handbook*, which is to be issued half-yearly at a penny.

CHRISTMAS cards again crowd our table. A well-known firm, Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Son, send us a large album filled with cards, which look all the better for being so displayed. A few are crude in colour, but a great number of them are distinctly good. A lavish use of satin makes many of Messrs. Tuck's cards extremely luxurious, and they send us one or two large cards in separate cases, the most elaborate we have yet seen.—Messrs. Schipper & Son send us a copious assortment of cards of more than usual merit both in design and execution. We have received, indeed, no better cards this season. 'The Turner Gallery,' produced by the same firm, is a mistake.—Messrs. Wirths Bros. & Owen send a number of highly successful specimens of frosted cards, and also a quantity of other cards of great excellence.

We have on our table *The Life and Teachings of Joseph Livesey*, by John Pearce (National Temperance League),—*Aberdour and Inchcolm, being Historical Notices of the Parish and Monastery*, by the Rev. W. Ross, LL.D. (Edinburgh, Douglas),—*Pump Court*, Vol. II. (The Office),—*Index to the London Gazette, 1830 to 1883*, compiled by A. Pulling (Clowes),—*The Q. P. Index Annual for 1884* (Trübner),—*New Light on Mormonism*, by Mrs. E. Dickinson (Funk & Wagnalls),—*Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*, with Preface and Notes by M. Mull (Kegan Paul),—*Law Lyrics* (Glasgow, Wilson & McCormick),—*Love Idylls, Ballads*, by H. Dryerre (Edinburgh, Menzies),—*The Eve of the Reformation, Part I.*, by the Rev. W. Stang (Burns & Oates),—*Memorials of Dean Close*, by One who Knew Him (Rivers),—*Religion without God*, by W. Arthur (Bemrose),—*Progress* (Hunt),—*Month of the Sacred Heart*, by the Abbé Berliouz (Dublin, Gill),—*The Prophecy of Joel*, by W. L. Pearson (Leipzig, Stauffer),—*The Only Passage to Heaven*, by One who Has It (Kegan Paul),—*The New Creature*, by the Rev. C. J. Hamilton (Bagster),—*Pastoral Theology of the New Testament*, by the late J. T. Beck, D.D. (Edinburgh, Clark),—*The Acts of the Apostles*, edited by J. R. Lumby (Cambridge, University Press),—*Annales du Musée Guimet: Vol. VIII, Le Yi-King, ou Livre des Changements de la Dynastie des Tcheou, Part I.*, by P. L. F. Philastre (Paris, Leroux),—*Dydus Asura, Ahura Mazda und die Asuras*, by P. V. Bradke (Nutt),—*Alberto da Gandino, Giureconsulto del Secolo XIII.*, by L. A. Gandini (Modena, Società Tipografica),—*Lettres sur la Cavalerie*, by E. Jaegle (Paris, Hinrichsen),—*Das Alte Testament bei Johannes*, by A. H. Franke (Göttingen, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht),—*Les Catholiques Libéraux, l'Eglise et le Libéralisme de 1830 à nos Jours*, by A. Leroy-Beaulieu (Paris, Plon),—*Satura, Grillen und Schwänke*, by L. Fulda (Leipzig, Reitzner),—*La Femme et le Droit*, by L. Bridel (Paris, Pichon),—*Menschen- und Völkernamen*, by R. Kleinpaul (Leipzig, Reitzner),—*Die Sprache als Kunst*, Parts VI.-X., by G. Gerber (Berlin, Gaertner),—*Die Alten Kyprier in Kunst und Cultus Studien*, by Dr. A. Holwerda (Leyden, Brill),—*Grundlinien zur Aristotelischen- Thomistischen*

Psychologie, by Dr. V. Knauer (Williams & Norgate). — *L'Œuvre Complète de Victor Hugo* (Paris, Hertz), — *Bibliotheca Normannica*, by H. Suchier (Nutt). — *Il Tipo Estetico della Donna nel Medioevo*, by R. Renier (Ancona, Morelli). — *Vita di San Carlo Borromeo*, by Cino di Villafiora (Milan, Civelli). Among New Editions we have *The Student's Blackstone*, by R. M. N. Kerr (Clowes). — *Nature and Thought*, by St. George Mivart (Burns & Oates). — *The Nomenclature of Diseases*, drawn up by the Royal College of Physicians of London (Harrison). — *History of Christian Names*, by C. M. Yonge (Macmillan). — *The Swiss Family Robinson*, edited by J. H. Stickney (Boston, U.S., Ginn). — *Scott's Tales of a Grandfather*, Vol. I., edited by E. Ginn (Boston, U.S., Ginn). — *Duchénier*, by the Rev. J. M. Neale (Masters). — *A Key to Lord Tennyson's 'In Memoriam'*, by Dr. A. Gatty (Bell). — *Echoes of the Night, and other Poems*, by F. H. Wood (Kegan Paul). — *James Nasmyth, Engineer, an Autobiography*, edited by S. Smiles, LL.D. (Murray). — *William Hedley, the Inventor of Railway Locomotion on the Present Principle* (Lockwood). — *The Co-operative Commonwealth, an Exposition of Modern Socialism*, by L. Gronlund (The Modern Press). — *Jacques Bonhomme chez John Bull*, by F. de Jupilles (Paris, Lévy). — *La Philosophie en France au XIX. Siècle*, by F. Ravaisson (Paris, Hachette). — *History of the Negro Race in America from 1619 to 1880*, by G. W. Williams (Putnam). — *Trout Culture*, by C. Capel (Low). — *The Field Sports of the North of Europe*, by Capt. L. Lloyd (Hamilton).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Bescher's (H. W.) *Evolution and Religion*, Part 1, Eight Sermons, 8vo, 3/6 cl.
Cave's (A.) *An Introduction to Theology*, 8vo, 12/ cl.
Clerical Library, Platform Alma, cr. 8vo, 6/ cl.
Cicouret's (R. L.) *Exposition of the Thirty-nine Articles*, 16/ cl.
Ederhelm's (A.) *History of Israel and Judah from Ahab to the Decline of the Two Kingdoms*, cr. 8vo, 2/6 cl.
Homiletic Library, Vols. 6 and 7: *Genius of the Fourth Gospel*, Gospel of St. John, by D. Thomas, 8vo, 21/ cl.
Murray's (Rev. A.) *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, 2/6 cl.
O'Neill's (Rev. Lord) *Sermons*, with Memoir by Ven. E. J. Hamilton, cr. 8vo, 6/ cl.
Sacred Books of the East: Vol. 26, *The Satapatha Brahmana*, trans. by J. Eggeling, Part 2, Books 3 and 4, 12/6 cl.; Vols. 27 and 28, *The Sacred Books of China: The Sect of Confucianism*, trans. by J. Legge, Part 3, *The Li Ki* i.-x., xl.-xlv., 25/ cl.
Sinclair's (Rev. W. M.) *Lessons on the Gospel of St. John*, 2/ cl.
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KEATS AT ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

THAT Keats did attend the lectures at St. Thomas's seems certain; but surely that does not imply that he was not also a student at the same time at Guy's. At p. 99 of a work published in 1841, and now scarce, 'The Philosophy of Mystery,' by Walter Cooper Dendy, Fellow of the Medical Society of London, &c., it is remarked, "Even in the lecture-room of Saint Thomas's, I have seen Keats in a deep poetic dream: his mind was on Parnassus with the Muses. And here is a quaint fragment," continues Mr. Dendy, "which he one evening scribbled in our presence, while the precepts of Sir Astley Cooper fell unheeded on his ear." The fragment that follows, and which appears to have escaped the notice of Keats's editors and biographers, is interesting as showing the in-

fluence Chatterton's works were then exercising upon the mind of the young medical student.

JOHN H. INGRAM.

THE BYRON QUARTO.

46, Marlborough Hill, St. John's Wood, Dec. 14, 1885.

THE book which I wished to trace, and which it was important to trace, is unquestionably the quarto of 1806 described in the *Athenæum* for the 5th of December. It is the first of the four volumes in which Lord Byron's juvenilia are collected; and it does not seem to me that there is any evidence of an earlier collection. The dates which Mr. Edgcumbe reproduces from the appendix to the English version of Elze's 'Life' are more familiar than significant. The translator of that work drew a most reasonable conclusion (ignored by his friend), namely, that what Byron sent to Miss Pigot was probably the poem 'On Leaving Newstead' only. It is tolerably clear to me that, in demanding "every copy" back from the printer, the poet referred to every copy of the sheet or two already worked off when he determined to give his poems another form. Of course it is not impossible that a fifth book exists; but I see no more reason for supposing so than for assuming a Shakespeare folio earlier than 1623. It seems to me likelier on the whole that a line written down from memory should have been written wrongly. I shall, of course, be very pleased to see any further material in this connexion that may turn up; but to search for a book earlier than the quarto of 1806, containing the line

Through the cracks in thy walls do the hollow winds whistle,

would be scarcely worth while unless one had a much more active faith in its existence than I have.

H. BUXTON FORMAN.

THE MEETING OF HENRY I. AND ROBERT OF NORMANDY IN 1101.

A COMMUNICATION appeared in *Notes and Queries*, January 3rd, 1880 (6th S. i. 6), with the well-known signature of Mr. Chester Waters, giving some results of his investigation of the cartulary of Colchester Abbey, which had been kindly lent him for inspection. It is there specially noted by Mr. Waters that

"the charter of Henry I., by which Eudo was reinstated in all his estates as he held them on the day that William II. died, is dated 'on the first day of the week after the Purification of the B. Virgin, after the concord made between me and my brother Robert apud Wesbian,' viz. February, 1102; whilst the grant of the city of Colchester..... is dated at Westminster on the first Christmas after the same concord with Robert Curthose."

Mr. Waters calls attention to the importance of his discovery by observing that

"none of the chronicles give the name of the place at which this concord was made between King Henry and his brother."

Prof. Freeman touches on this point in his 'Reign of William Rufus,' published two years later, and though he draws attention in the preface of that work (p. viii) to a "story" of Mr. Waters's from this cartulary, he adds, with reason, "It would be more satisfactory if one could refer to that witness for oneself"; and (consciously or not) he wholly ignores Mr. Waters's discovery that the meeting of Henry and Robert took place "apud Wesbian." He asserts, without hesitation, that they met at Alton, in Hampshire (p. xxxix, ii. 408-9; wrongly "Maldon," ii. xix), basing that assertion on Andersen's reading ("Al bois de Allone trespasser") of Wace 10,393, and on the likely position of the spot. "The place of the conference," he observes, "between Henry and Robert is satisfactorily fixed in the new text of Wace published by Dr. Andersen" (p. vii).

What, then, becomes of Mr. Waters's discovery? Simply this. The two charters to which he refers were drawn up in precisely the same form, the one being tested at Westbury (apud Westb'riam), the other at Westminster, and both being dated according to the time which

had elapsed since the above *concordia*. But, though this was so, he has most unaccountably in one of them mistaken the place where the charter itself was tested for the locality of an event to which the charter alludes, and taken the words *apud Westb'riam* to refer to the *concordia* between the brothers instead of to the charter itself! Accordingly Mr. Waters's record evidence, which would, if trustworthy, be fatal to Prof. Freeman's conclusion, may henceforth be put aside.

It is a striking illustration of the facility with which historical error is spread that no less renowned an antiquary than Mr. Eyton himself should have been misled by this erroneous discovery. His MS. *Itineraries of Henry I. and Henry II.* (of which the latter alone has, I believe, been published) are now in the British Museum, and we find that to the former (Add. MSS. 31, 937, fol. 118) he has made the addition:—

[1102] "Feb. 2. Concord with Robert apud Wesbrian (*N. & Q.*, Jan. 1, 1880)."

As usual, however, where Mr. Eyton is not writing from his own knowledge, or recording a discovery of his own, he is careful, as we see, to give us the reference to the source of his information.

It will also be noticed that Mr. Eyton misunderstood Mr. Waters, and so went further in the path of error (*sic crescit eundo*) by assigning not only the place but the date also to the *concordia* instead of to the charter itself. Does not this further enforce the lesson that no reputation however widespread, can dispense with the necessity of referring to an original authority for ourselves? It is earnestly to be hoped that the Colchester cartulary, so full of instruction for the historical student, may before long be given to the world, and that when it is so given it may be blessed with a capable editor.

J. H. ROUND.

THE COPYRIGHT AND PUBLICATION OF 'THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD.'

WHILE the beautiful performance of the dramatic version of 'The Vicar of Wakefield' at the Lyceum Theatre is fresh in the memory of the public, I may, perhaps, assume that readers will not be indifferent to a question that concerns the literary history of Goldsmith's immortal novel. The question is whether the original purchasers of the copyright were so little conscious of the merits of a work which has since delighted, and will yet delight, millions of readers, that they allowed the manuscript to lie neglected year after year, while such trash as 'The Theatre of Love,' 'Anti-Pamela,' and 'The Memoirs of Constantia' was deluging the town. Dr. Johnson has honestly confessed that he did not think his friend's tale would "have had much success"; but, on the other hand, it was Johnson who, having cursorily scanned the manuscript while the hard-hearted landlady's bailiffs were standing by, as we see them in the familiar picture, found enough to induce him to hasten away to Mr. Newbery's shop; and everybody knows that the experienced bibliopole put down his pounds or guineas with a promptitude which sufficed at once to rescue the desponding poet from the clutches of his persecutors. It has hitherto always been inferred, from Johnson's accounts of the transaction recorded by the faithful and painstaking Boswell, that this must have occurred near the end of the year 1764; and though 'The Vicar' was not published till March, 1766, there are sufficient reasons for the delay, so far, without adopting Johnson's manifestly unfounded notion that Newbery had but "faint hopes of profit by his bargain"; for Newbery was then on the very point of publishing 'The Traveller,' the brilliant success of which poem, Johnson himself, with curious inconsistency, tells us, greatly enhanced the marketable value of the yet unpublished prose work. If we may rely on the memory of Dr. Parr, Goldsmith

told him that Newbery kept the manuscript "by him two years"; but an impatient author in such a case would certainly be more likely to exaggerate the delay by one-third than to reduce it by one-half. Practical publishers in such matters are wiser than authors. The truth is that to have put 'The Vicar' in hand before the novelty of 'The Traveller,' by the same author, had thoroughly exhausted itself, would have been contrary to all the maxims and traditions of Paternoster Row.

But now comes Mr. Austin Dobson armed with an old ledger of the printer of the novel, B. Collins, of Salisbury, from which it appears that so early as the 28th of October, 1762, Collins had purchased "of the author, Dr. Goldsmith," for the sum of twenty guineas, a "third share in 'The Vicar of Wakefield'"; and forthwith Mr. Dobson, in his essay prefixed to Mr. Elliot Stock's pretty facsimile of the first edition, puts back the whole story of the cruel landlady and the bailiffs and Johnson's intervention to some period antecedent even to this early date, and to some place other than Mrs. Fleming's lodgings at Islington, which have hitherto been the accepted scene of the anecdote. Hence it follows that the publisher's supposed "faint hopes of profit" must have extended, without any other imaginable excuse, over some three years and a half, or possibly more.

To this charge I venture, on behalf of the departed Newbery and Collins, to put in a plea of "Not guilty." Johnson says that he sold the novel—that is, the copyright—to the bookseller for 60*l.* But this cannot be literally correct, for Goldsmith's transaction with Newbery must have been either later or earlier than his transaction with Collins. If later, the novel would have been, so far, not his to sell; if earlier, then it is clear that Collins could not have subsequently purchased his third share "of the author, Dr. Goldsmith." In this dilemma the only reasonable supposition is that, before Newbery appeared on the scene, Collins, having doubtless seen so much of the novel as was then written—and we know, at least, that Goldsmith was engaged upon it in 1762—had thought it a promising venture to risk twenty guineas in return for a future third share plus the advantage of securing the printing of the book. Such a mode of pledging unfinished work to a publisher and printer was common enough, and certainly was not out of keeping with "Goldy's" habits. Equally in keeping would be the supposition that the manuscript was thereupon put aside for other work, and so remained unfinished till the landlady's clamorous demands suggested to the dilatory author the writing of the concluding chapters. When Johnson came to the rescue it was, he tells us, "ready for the press." It would follow from this view that although Johnson, being under no necessity of speaking by the card, says he sold "it," what he really sold was the remaining two-thirds of the copyright. What he really meant, then, by the words "for sixty pounds," probably was that this was the agreed value of the whole work. But if one-third share had already been assessed at twenty guineas, why, it may be asked, was not the entire work assessed at sixty guineas? Mr. Dobson himself very reasonably suspects that we should be right here in "putting guineas for pounds"; but he seems to have forgotten that in another account Johnson himself distinctly says that it was "sixty guineas," and adds that under the circumstances "this was no mean price"—a remark which would be altogether misleading if he was not referring to the total price. Sixty guineas, therefore, we may take it, was the agreed value of the whole copyright. Of this sum Collins, who is shown by the account book to have regularly received his share of the profits of the publication, had, if the above views are correct, already paid twenty guineas. What Johnson received in hard cash, therefore, would be forty guineas. It may be worth noting that

this is corroborated, if we again assume the common confusion between pounds and guineas, by Sir John Hawkins's statement that the sum paid by Newbery was "forty pounds."

A parting word regarding the true date of the Johnson story, particularly as this involves the reputation of poor Mrs. Thrale, whom Mr. Dobson, in polite equivalents, dismisses as a "meddacious hussy, certainly on very slight grounds. The lady was oblivious of dates, after the alleged habit of her sex; and she has incurred the playful censure of Johnson upon her "laxity of narration." Whether a particular event, therefore, happened before 1765 or "not later than 1766," or "after dinner" or before dinner, cannot be satisfactorily settled by her recollections after a lapse of years. But when she distinctly tells us that it was from her house that Johnson set forth on his benevolent expedition, that he returned thither after he had accomplished it and gave her a detailed account of his proceedings, and that ten years later he told her that the "enraged author" was, as she had suspected, Goldsmith, and the manuscript that of the famous 'Vicar of Wakefield,' we must either set down Mrs. Thrale as a deliberate falsifier of literary history, as Mr. Dobson appears inclined to do, or believe that it was indeed at her house that Goldsmith's messenger—aware, no doubt, of the urgency of his errand—had finally hunted down the object of his search. But Mr. Dobson urges that the lady did not make the acquaintance of Johnson till 1764, after his return from Scotland, August 19th; and we know that the rescue from the bailiffs must have occurred before December 19th, when 'The Traveller' was published. These dates Mr. Dobson considers fatal; but why? For little reason, as far as appears, beyond his assumption that the transaction with Collins must have been subsequent to the arrangement with Newbery.

W. MOY THOMAS

Literary Gossip.

LIEUT. GREELY'S narrative of Arctic adventure will, we understand, be published by Messrs. Bentley in January. It will contain upwards of one hundred illustrations, mostly engraved from photographs.

We believe that Mrs. Lynn Linton has taken up the point which immediately concerned and alluded to herself in Mr. Gladstone's article on the 'Dawn of Creation and Worship' in the *Nineteenth Century* of last month. Her paper will appear in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of January, under the title of 'A Protest and a Plea,' and it is said to be bold and outspoken to a remarkable degree.

MISS BROUGHTON has completed a new novel. It is three years since her last novel, 'Belinda,' first appeared in *Temple Bar*. Miss Broughton wisely takes time to produce her stories. Her new story will appear in the early part of next year. It will be published by Messrs. Bentley.

In the fifth volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' which reaches from Bicheno to Bottisham, Mr. W. Barclay Squire writes on Sir Henry Rowley Bishop; Prof. J. K. Laughton on admirals Blake and Boscawen; Mr. G. P. Macdonell on Blackstone; Precentor Venables on Dean Blackley; Mr. Charles Kent on the Countess of Blessington; the Rev. J. W. Ebsworth on Col. Blood; Mr. A. H. Bullen on Robert Bloomfield; Mr. S. L. Lee on Charles Blount, Earl of Devonshire, and Edward Blount, the Elizabethan stationer; Mr. J. H. Round on Randolph Blundevill, Earl of Chester; Mr. Leslie Stephen on Boswell; Mr. James

Gairdner on Bishop Bonner; Mr. E. Maunde Thompson on St. Boniface; the Rev. W. D. Macray on Sir Thomas Bodley; Dr. Furnivall on Andrew Borde; Mr. John Venn on George Boole; Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse on Bonington; and Mr. A. Egmont Hake on George Borrow. The late Mrs. Anne Gilchrist is the author of the article on William Blake, the poet.

SIR LEFEL GRIFFIN is said to be the joint proprietor of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, which will make its first appearance next week.

SIR CHARLES WARREN is writing an article on the South African question for one of the monthly reviews.

In the opening number of *Notes and Queries* for the year 1886 will appear the first of a series of papers intended as a contribution to a history of the Thames, and giving new views upon the condition and population of England previous to the Roman occupation, and other kindred matters.

THE international copyright question appears to be growing in interest. A letter on the subject has been printed in the *Publishers' Circular* from a gentleman who has just returned from a visit to the United States, during which he came into frequent contact with authors and publishers, when the subject was constantly discussed. The letter in question is signed "E. M.," initials which indicate a writer who has paid much attention to the subject. He noticed that at many American bookstalls "the chief books offered for sale were cheap reprints of English authors."

THE *Primrose Record*, conducted by Mr. Thomas Purnell, and "issued by authority of the Grand Council of the Primrose League," was to have ceased with the close of the elections. It has, however, been determined to continue the publication on new lines. Weekly stories and acrostics will be the main features. Mr. Purnell retires from the editorship.

AN illustrated magazine for children will be issued in January, under the title of *Merry and Wise*, by Messrs. Burns & Oates. The introduction is written by Cardinal Manning, under whose auspices the new candidate for juvenile favour is sent forth.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT will publish next month a novel entitled 'A Fair Maid,' by Mr. F. W. Robinson, and also a new work entitled 'Reminiscences of the Court and Times of King Ernest of Hanover,' by the Rev. C. A. Wilkinson, his Majesty's domestic chaplain.

MR. HUBERT HALL in the next number of the *Antiquary* commences the proposed series of papers on the history of the Crown lands. Mr. George Clinch contributes an unpublished letter from Baron Wainwright to Lady Sundon, which contains a description of the Giant's Causeway. To the "Celebrated Birthplaces" series Mr. A. C. Bickley contributes an article on Fenny Drayton, the birthplace of George Fox, the Quaker. There will also be articles on the 'Wyatts of Allington,' by Mr. Brailsford, on 'Wandering Englishmen,' by Mr. J. Theodore Bent, and on 'Quaint Conceits in Pottery,' by Mr. Illewellynn Jewitt.

A NEW magazine will be published for the 1st of January, entitled *The Christian Reformer*, reviving an old title. It will in some measure take the ground of the *Modern Review* and the *Theological Review*, but be published as a shilling monthly magazine. Among the contributors to the first numbers will be Dr. Martineau, Prof. Upton, and Prof. Estlin Carpenter. It will be published by Messrs. Williams & Norgate.

THE registers of baptisms of the Episcopal church, Muthill, Perthshire, from 1697 to 1847, have been transcribed by the Rev. A. W. Cornelius Hallen, and will be privately printed by subscription. The entries number about four thousand, and are of more than local interest. Muthill during the eighteenth century was the only Episcopal church in a very large district, and most of the Perthshire gentry were Episcopalians. The Muthill registers are believed to be the oldest in the Scottish Episcopal Church, and among the well-known families represented in these manuscripts are those of Drummond, Erskine, Forbes, Graham, Johnstone, McGregor, Murray, Oliphant, and Rollo.

WE understand that Mr. Harvey is engaged on a history of the church of St. Andrew Undershaft, London. The work will contain some extracts from the registers, but, as we have already announced, the registers will next year be printed in *extenso* under the editorship of the Rev. A. W. Cornelius Hallen.

THE Monthly List of Parliamentary Papers for November contains, besides the First Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the Depression of Trade and Industry, thirteen House of Commons Reports and Papers, and fourteen Papers by Command. Among the former will be noted the Return showing the present Borough and County Constituencies in each County in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, and also the Constituencies as constituted by the Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885, with the number of members and the population; the Report from the Select Committee on Irish Industries; the Navy List of Ships on May 1st, 1885; the Number of Children attending Voluntary Schools, and Expenditure; and the Return of Casualties in the Army in the Nile Expedition up to the Present Time. The Papers by Command include Abstracts of Returns of Sea Casualties for 1883-4, with Charts; the Administration Report on the Indian Railways for 1884-5; the Fourteenth Report of the Local Government Board; part ii. of the Report on Lighthouse Illuminants; and the Indexes to the Reports of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes in England and Wales and in Ireland.

MRS. A. R. ELLIS, who edited the recent editions of 'Evelina' and 'Cecilia,' is preparing for publication the unpublished portion of Miss Burney's diaries which refers to the period preceding the appearance of 'Evelina.'

A MONUMENT to the memory of the late Dean Stanley has been placed in St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh. In the inscription on the monument he is spoken of as being "celebrated as a Churchman, historian, and divine."

MR. J. O. AUSTIN, of Providence, Rhode Island, has completed his 'Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island.' This work notices 465 families that settled within the present limits of Rhode Island before 1690, with their descendants carried to the third and in many cases to the fourth generation.

MR. R. BROWN, F.S.A.Scot., the author of a history of the Paisley Grammar School, is writing a history of Paisley from the Roman period till 1884. The work will be divided into two volumes, the first reaching down to 1750, the second dealing with the history of the town since that time.

MR. FISHER UNWIN informs us that the author of the little volume recently published entitled 'The New Godiva, and other Studies in Social Questions,' unwittingly trespassed on the title of a novel by Mr. Sydney Hodges, called 'A New Godiva,' the novel having been dramatized. The title of the volume of essays in future editions will be 'Five Studies in Social Questions.'

THE Cambridge branch of the Royal Historical Society held a meeting at the beginning of the month, in which Prof. Seeley proved that as early as 1734 George II. had received a copy of the Family Compact of 1733. It has generally been supposed that the English Government did not know of its existence, but Prof. Seeley thinks that it was his knowledge of it that made Walpole's policy so timid. He was not prepared to fight both Spain and France.

THE death is announced of Dr. Howson, the Dean of Chester. He was for many years Principal of the Liverpool College, and while holding that office he wrote, along with Mr. Conybeare, the work on 'The Life and Epistles of St. Paul' by which he will be chiefly remembered. He also published a number of other books. As Dean of Chester he, with the best intentions, obliterated nearly every trace of the old cathedral. For this, however, the chief responsibility lay with the architect, who led the energetic dean astray. Dr. W. Pinnock, the writer of several works on ecclesiastical law, has also died. Some of the papers have cruelly said he was the author of the "Catechisms" which had begun to appear before he was born.

"UNWIN'S ANNUAL," called 'The Broken Shaft,' to be issued next week, will contain stories by Mr. F. Marion Crawford, Mr. R. L. Stevenson, Mr. F. Anstey, Mr. W. H. Pollock, Mr. William Archer, Mr. Tighe Hopkins, and the editor, Mr. Henry Norman, all purporting to have been told on board the steamer Bavaria while delayed in mid-ocean by the breaking of the shaft. Mr. Crawford's story, 'The Upper Berth,' is the first short story he has written. The connecting narrative by the editor introduces descriptions of the contributors, and more or less imaginary conversations between them.

PROF. W. VIETOR, of Marburg, is going to publish a new periodical, *Phonetische Studien*. It will be devoted to phonetics in general, and especially to German orthoepy, and will contain contributions in German, English, and French.

ONE of the greatest modern scholars of the Society of Jesus, Father Scheerman,

who was for some time the chief contributor to the *Stimmen aus Maria Laach*, has just died in Kirchtrath, Holland. After his expulsion from Germany, Father Scheerman resided for a time in England; but he could not bear our climate, and went to Holland, where he taught theology, we believe, in one or more of the Roman Catholic clerical seminaries.

MISS FIELD, the daughter of Mr. Cyrus Field, is going to publish a Christmas story, entitled 'Palermo,' through Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons. The volume is illustrated with five etchings.

A SPECIAL interest attaches at present to the reports showing the condition of British Burma. In education, as in other matters, the province may be considered one of the most progressive of our Eastern possessions. The report on public instruction for 1884-5, recently issued, states that during the year the number of schools increased from 4,682 to 5,010, and of pupils from 127,583 to 137,504, the greatest increase being in primary schools. Satisfactory progress has also been made in the training of teachers and in industrial schools. It is stated that the experiment of giving representatives of the townspeople large powers in the management of educational matters has been very successful.

THE January number of the *Calcutta Review* will contain an article by Mr. Henry Beveridge, of the Bengal Civil Service, contesting some important points as to Sir Elijah Impey made by Sir James Stephen in his recent 'Story of Nuncomar.'

THE death is reported of the Nestor of modern Italian authors, Andrea Maffei, who has died at Milan in his eighty-fifth year. Maffei was the most active and prominent interpreter both of English and German literature to his fellow countrymen. At the age of sixteen he translated Gessner's 'Idylls.' He has since enriched Italian literature with translations of Shakespeare, Milton, and Byron, and of Goethe, Schiller, Klopstock, and others. In 1879 the king nominated him a senator. His translations are praised for their fidelity and perfection of form.

A WORK by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, entitled 'The Triumph of Democracy; or, Fifty Years' March of the Republic,' is now in the press. It is intended to show the growth of the United States within the last half century, contrasting it with the progress of Great Britain and other nations.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"I have just heard from Dr. Kohut, one of the rabbis at New York, that 'the complete lexicon of the Targum, Talmud, and the Midraah by him, boisterously announced by Mr. Towns- end MacConn as to appear in eight volumes, and to be obtained by subscription only,' is nothing else but a reprint of the 'Aruch' by Nathan ben Jehiel, now in course of publication at Vienna. The Imperial Academy allows a subvention for this important work, so ably and critically edited by Dr. Kohut according to MSS., and four volumes of it have already appeared, which make half of the work."

WE shall give our usual series of articles on the literature of continental Europe during the year in the first number for 1886, that of January 2nd, instead of inserting them, according to our previous practice, in

the last number for 1885. Among them will be Belgium, by M. É. de Laveleye and M. P. Fredericq; Bohemia, by Dr. Backovsky; Denmark, by M. V. Petersen; France, by M. F. de Pressensé; Germany, by Hofrath Zimmermann; Holland, by E. van Campen; Hungary, by Prof. A. Vámbéry; Italy, by Signor Bonghi; Norway, by M. Jæger; Poland, by Dr. A. Belcikowski; Russia, by Prof. N. Storjensko; and Sweden, by M. Ahnfelt.

SCIENCE

RECENT ENTOMOLOGY.

European Butterflies. By W. F. de Vismes Kane, M.A. (Macmillan & Co.)

Our Insect Enemies. By Theodore Wood. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

The Young Collector. By W. F. Kirby. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

THERE is an increase in the number of butterfly collectors, a large number of whom, it may be reasonably hoped, will ultimately develop into entomologists. It is more than probable that æsthetic leanings combined with the almost universal love of possessing a collection of some description of natural objects are often the beginnings of a taste for this branch of natural history, and as the Continent becomes more and more the arena for the annual British holiday, the tourist sees before him a wealth in butterfly existence which appeals to his sense of natural beauty and promotes a desire to have some general knowledge of it. A sojourn in the Riviera, or a visit to the Pyrenees or Switzerland, cannot fail to impress on the mind of the least entomological Briton that in butterflies the Continent possesses a multiplicity of species and an increase in generic types that form a most striking contrast to our own small rhopalocerous fauna. It is such considerations that explain, in some degree at least, the recent publication of several works on European butterflies, some of which might be accurately described as the *vade mecum* of a holiday collector. Hence the author of the first work under notice is somewhat unfair in his introductory remarks about the paucity of works in the English language on the subject, unless he considers—and perhaps justly—that the price of publication is often prohibitory to general study; for whereas the real student must and will have books, whatever the inconvenience, the general tourist would probably look less askance at an increase of the hotel bill than at an expenditure of money in butterfly literature. The merits of Mr. de Vismes Kane's book are economy in price, smallness of bulk, a very liberal amount of illustration, and a general accuracy on the lines at present considered sufficient.

A general, though necessarily short introduction to the subject is given, but here, on some points, precision of definition has been attained at the expense of general exactitude. Thus it is incorrect to say that all butterflies differ from moths in having erectile wings when at rest, as many exotic species at least are aberrant in that respect and rest in moth-like attitude. In the Hesperidae the wings at rest are sometimes folded vertically, sometimes expanded horizontally, and frequently the anterior wings are raised vertically, while the posterior ones remain in a horizontal position. It is the more difficult to understand Mr. de Vismes Kane's introductory definition as at p. 134 he correctly points out that many of the Hesperidae rest, like most of the moths, "with wings outspread laterally."

The classification and nomenclature followed are with slight exception those of Dr. Staudinger, with all their merits and with their errors. The illustrations are exceptionally valuable as showing what photography by the process employed

by the Typo-Engraving Company, assisted by the use of isochromatic plates prepared by Atout Tailleur and John Clayton of Paris, can achieve in entomological illustration. The descriptions are short, popular, and concise, scientific terminology being as a rule discarded, though perhaps at considerable cost; localities are fully tabulated, varieties and aberrations distinguished and emphasized, dates of emergence collated and compiled, and altogether a handbook produced which will, no doubt, be frequently found in the collector's knapsack, though possibly not attaining a prominent niche in the entomological library.

It is pleasant to see that that prolific and popular writer the Rev. J. C. Wood, who has for years been the friend and delight of boyhood, is now assisted—and in some cases, as 'Our Insect Enemies' proves, followed—in the same class of literature by his son. This modest little work is a concise and pleasantly written compilation of facts already recorded, supplemented with original observations of the author, relative to a number of our British insects who rank as "enemies" by their depredations on our food supplies, or by their injuries to our native and cultivated plants. One remark, however, is at once prompted, and that is simply that all the insects enumerated are not exclusively "enemies," and that hosts of others which might be so described with more or less limitation are not—for the space forbids—even mentioned. The first few chapters, and perhaps the fullest and most comprehensive portion of the book, are devoted to the aphid or "green blight," the plant louse or green fly so well known and even more disliked by the rose grower and horticulturist. The tale that can now be told of these extraordinary insects is one of the marvels of entomology, and proves that the romance of natural history can still be maintained by the recital of observed and authenticated facts, without the agency of brilliant theories or advanced conclusions. It is but recently that Lichtenstein has lifted the veil that hid the mysteries of aphidian cyclical development, whilst Buckton by issuing his monograph on the British aphides has made a general knowledge of the family possible. It is, however, their wonderful powers of reproduction that Mr. Wood has particularly emphasized, and in doing so he has availed himself of one of those marvellous scientific parables with which the name of Huxley is associated: "He assumes, first, that one thousand aphides weigh collectively no more than one grain avoirdupois (which is certainly below, rather than above, the mark); and, secondly, that only a very stout man can weigh as much as two million grains, or rather above twenty stones. Then he tells us that the tenth brood alone of the descendants of a single aphid, supposing that the multiplication had been altogether unchecked by the various causes which generally influence it so greatly, would be equivalent in point of actual matter to more than five hundred millions of stout men, or one-third of the entire population of the globe, supposing that each individual member were of sufficient corpulence to turn the scale at two hundred and eighty pounds" (p. 23). Small books of this description are capable of doing much useful work in a useful manner. They circulate amongst those to whom a more complex or more rigidly scientific literature would be repugnant, and thus spread that class of general or popular knowledge which, though too often based on isolated facts and curiously chosen authorities, is still better by far than that intellectual vacuity on scientific matters which so frequently adorns a moderate amount of literary respectability.

Our third and smallest work is addressed to the "young collector," and is in the style of Mr. Kirby's other publications, of which various abridgments and expansions from time to time appear, under diverse titles, and adapted to different classes of readers. It is almost imper-

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sible for any but a "young collector" to give a proper notice of such a book, as he, or she, could best describe the amount of assistance derived from its perusal. We ourselves hold that no general information regarding the structure and anatomy of insects can be given without illustrations of the same; that the most elementary teaching in science is only possible through the possession of the most special and clearly apprehended knowledge of the subject; and that a multiplicity of publications is often in an inverse ratio to a dissemination of sound knowledge. The brochure is nicely bound and well printed, it costs little, it is illustrated by many woodcuts, and its penultimate section is devoted to a list of "books likely to be useful to beginners," of which one of the author's publications stands first, and the works of Stainton and Newman follow.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE comet discovered by M. Fabry (not Faber, as the name is inadvertently printed in our "Notes" last week) at the Paris Observatory on the evening of the 1st inst. is, according to a calculation of its orbit made by Dr. H. Oppenheim, of Berlin, receding from the earth, but will not arrive at perihelion until the month of March. Its place now is almost exactly midway between α Andromedæ and γ Pegasi, and next week it will move nearly along a circle of declination parallel to one connecting γ and α Pegasi. M. Fabry discovered it in the course of a search for new comets, on which he had been engaged with the equatorial *coudé* during the preceding three months. At the time of discovery he describes it as having "l'apparence d'une faible nébulosité arrondie (12° grandeur) de 1° de diamètre environ, avec un très petit noyau central d'aspect stellaire." Since then the apparent brightness has been slightly increasing.

Mr. Latimer Clark has published his 'Transit Tables for 1886,' on the same plan as in previous years. We have already noticed their usefulness in enabling any one to obtain the correct time by the aid of a small portable transit instrument without the necessity of making any calculation whatever, the exact mean time of transit at Greenwich of several of the brightest and most conveniently situated *Nautical Almanac* stars being given for every day in the year. The positions of the planets, altitude and declination of the sun, and other handy astronomical data are also tabulated.

The *Nautical Almanac* for 1889 has recently been published. The contents and arrangement are the same generally as those of the preceding year, nor does any change appear to have been made in the fundamental data. There will be two total eclipses of the sun, on the 1st of January and the 22nd of December, and an annular eclipse of the sun on the 28th of July. The central line of the total eclipse of January 1st, after passing from Behring's Straits across the northern part of the North Atlantic, will pass over parts of the states of California, Oregon, and Nebraska, where the duration, however, will be but short. More important for its scientific utility will be the total eclipse of the 22nd of December; the central line, after passing over the northern part of the South Atlantic, will cross the whole of the African continent, on the west coast of which, in the northern part of Benguela, the duration of totality will amount to about three minutes and a half.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 10.—Prof. G. G. Stokes, President, in the chair.—The President announced that he had appointed as Vice-Presidents the Treasurer (Dr. J. Evans), Dr. A. Geikie, Sir J. Hooker, Prof. Huxley, and General Strachey.—Dr. J. Anderson (elected 1879) was admitted into the Society.—Prof. A. Baeyer, Prof. F. Klein, Prof. Kowalewski, and Prof. Sven Lovén were elected Foreign Members.—The following papers were read: 'Preliminary Results of a Comparison of certain Simultaneous Fluctua-

tions of the Declination at Kew and at Stonyhurst during 1883-84, as recorded by the Magnetographs,' by the Rev. S. J. Perry and Prof. B. Stewart.—'On the Magnetization of Steel, Cast Iron, and Soft Iron,' by Mr. J. W. Gemmell.—'On the Limited Hydration of Ammonium Carbamate,' by Mr. H. J. H. Fenton.—'On the Relation of the Reptiliferous Sandstone of Elgin to the Upper Old Red Sandstone,' by Prof. Judd.—and 'Experimental Researches in Cerebral Physiology: II. On the Muscular Contractions which are evoked by Excitation of the Motor Nerves,' by Profs. Horsley and Schäfer.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 14.—The Marquis of Lorne, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Col. M. Bowie, Major G. L. Cumming, Rev. A. G. Jackson, Rev. C. A. S. M. Senhouse, Rev. J. Troutbeck, Dr. J. Anderson, Messrs. J. Butcher, H. B. Grafton, D. J. Jardine, G. H. Leggett, A. Macartney, H. P. Malet, F. H. Parker, F. W. Rolfe, G. N. Vickers, and H. A. White.—The paper read was 'The Herat Valley and the Persian Border, from the Hari-rud to Seistan,' by Col. C. E. Stewart.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Dec. 11.—Mr. E. Dunkin, President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. Hunter, W. C. Johnson, and R. Wilding were elected Fellows.—Mr. Knobel read a paper, by Mr. Neison, 'On the Term of Long Period due to Mars in the Expression for the Longitude of the Moon.' The paper was chiefly an answer to a criticism by a French astronomer who had carried the investigation of the perturbation due to Mars to terms of a higher order than Mr. Neison, and had shown that the action of Mars might be neglected, a general conclusion which Mr. Neison now admitted.—Mr. Ranyard read a paper 'On the Connexion between Photographic Action, the Brightness of the Luminous Object, and the Time of Exposure as applied to Celestial Photography.' He submitted a series of photographic plates to the meeting, which tended to show that, though the eye can detect a difference of one-sixtieth in the intensity of the illumination of two adjacent fields when the light is not too brilliant or too faint, a difference amounting to less than one-twentieth of the illumination is all that can be detected by the most sensitive commercial dry plates. Mr. Ranyard also exhibited plates, parts of which had been exposed for different periods to lights of various intensity. His general conclusion was that the intensity of the photographic trace increases regularly with the duration of the exposure, and that with a constant light the intensity of the photographic action varies as the inverse square of the distance of the source of light—that is, that the photographic action is proportional to the intensity of the illumination.—Col. Tupman read extracts from a number of papers that had been received by the Society referring to the meteor shower observed on the 27th of November. From the observations of Padre Denza of Turin, Mr. Denning at Bristol, Prof. Pritchard at Oxford, Prof. Grant at Glasgow, and Dr. Copeland at Dun Echt, Col. Tupman assumed that the maximum of the star shower occurred between 6.15 and 7.15 P.M. English time. The meteors were mostly of the second and third magnitude, with an occasional fire-ball. Mr. Denning determined three radiant points in Andromeda on the 26th, two on the 27th, and one on the 28th.—The Earl of Crawford read a paper from Dr. Copeland, who had turned a direct-vision prism to a part of the heavens where the meteors were most numerous, and had succeeded in observing the spectrum of seven of them. The spectrum was faint, but there was one relatively bright line, the position of which could not be determined, though it was probably not far from F.—Mr. Common said that he had observed the meteors through a field-glass, and was struck by the time during which he could observe the streaks. In one case the streak left did not disappear for nearly a minute. All the streaks left when viewed with the field-glass appeared to be broken up into isolated patches, and reminded him of the stratified discharges seen in vacuum tubes.—Mr. Ranyard said that it was evident that the meteors did not radiate from a point in Andromeda, but when their tracks were traced backwards they appeared to spring from an elliptic area some ten degrees in diameter. Mr. Ranyard suggested that the meteors might be moving parallel to one another outside the earth's atmosphere, but that their irregular shapes caused them to be deflected from their original course after entering the earth's atmosphere, which gives rise to the appearance of many radiant points clustering about the true radiant.—Col. Tupman said that he had laid down as accurately as possible the course of some twenty-five meteors observed on November 27th, whose direction and motion he had been able to observe with comparative accuracy. It was evident that the paths did not radiate from a point, but from a distinct area of elliptic shape.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Dec. 9.—Mr. A. D. Michael, V.P., in the chair.—Eleven new Fellows were elected and proposed.—Mr. Swift's large photo-micrograph of the tongue of the blow-fly was exhibited. The plan adopted was to take an enlarged photograph from a small image obtained by a paraffin lamp by artificially strengthening the image where required.—Mr. Crisp exhibited Prof. Klein's microscope for observing crystals when heated to a high temperature, also an apparatus for enabling four photo-micrographs to be taken of the same object, so as to give a different length of exposure to each or to photograph different parts of an object rapidly.—Dr. Maddox exhibited a series of photographs of inked surfaces covering pencil lines.—Mr. Crisp referred to a curious case in which a forger wanted to add some words to a bond which had been originally written with very pale ink; the added words were darker, and he therefore retraced the whole of the original writing to make it look all alike, but examination with the microscope at once detected the forgery.—Dr. E. Crookshank read a paper 'On the Cultivation of Bacteria,' which he illustrated by numerous drawings and by a series of preparations. He also exhibited and described a collection of apparatus of the latest and most approved construction for the cultivation of bacteria and the preparation of the media employed.—Mr. Robertson described a method of preparing a section of spinal cord by soaking in picric acid before cutting.—Mr. Meates's note on a new highly refractive medium for mounting—sulphide of arsenic—was read.—Mr. Cheshire read a paper 'On the Pulvillus of the Bee,' calling attention to a notch found upon the leg of the bee, and explaining what he considered to be its function as opposed to the explanations given by some other observers.—Mr. J. W. Groves exhibited some mounted sections cut by the large Barrett microtome to show how large good sections could be made with the machine.

MATHEMATICAL.—Dec. 10.—Mr. J. W. L. Glaisher, President, in the chair.—Mr. A. E. Haynes was elected a Member.—The following communications were made: 'On the Numerical Solution of Cubic Equations,' by Mr. G. Heppel.—'On a Theorem in Kinematics,' by Mr. J. J. Walker.—and 'Note on the Induction of Electric Currents in an Infinite Plane Current Sheet which is rotating in a Field of Magnetic Force,' by Mr. A. B. Basset.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 14.—*Annual General.*—Mr. C. Gandon, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected as the Council and officers for the ensuing year: *President*, Mr. P. F. Nursey; *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. H. Robinson, Mr. A. T. Walmisley, and Mr. W. Schönheyder; *Ordinary Members of Council*, Messrs. R. Berridge, W. B. Kinsey, W. MacGeorge, A. F. Phillips, M. O. Tarbotton, J. R. Baillie, R. W. F. Birch, and J. Standfield, the three latter gentlemen being new members of Council; *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*, Mr. A. Williams; *Auditor*, Mr. A. Lass.

NEW SHAKSPEARE.—Dec. 11.—Dr. F. J. Furnivall in the chair.—Mr. H. Sharpe read a paper 'On the Prose in Shakspeare's Plays, the Rules for its Use, and the Assistance that it gives in understanding the Plays.' Mr. Sharpe claimed that certain general rules existed for the employment of prose and metre, and, after going carefully through each play to point out their existence, tabulated them as follows: History is in metre. Tragic, pompous, and sentimental parts are in metre; comic, jovial, and light-hearted parts in prose. Letters, proclamations, and other written documents are in prose. Poor men speak prose. Fools speak prose. Messengers speak metre. Persons who lose the use of their reason speak prose (e.g., Hamlet after the play, Ophelia and Lear when mad, Lady Macbeth when sleep-walking, Lepidus when drunk, Othello when in a fit). Asides are in prose. Volleys of words are in prose. A person using authority over another speaks metre. Some persons speak sometimes prose, sometimes metre, according to their state of mind or the company they are in. Persons speaking together all speak prose or all speak metre (if an educated man who usually speaks metre meets a poor man, both speak prose). Ladies speak prose when alone, or nearly alone, with female relations. The assistance given in understanding the plays was shown in Hamlet, whose natural speech was metre, but who spoke prose with any one he mistrusted.—The Chairman read some notes on the paper by Mr. F. G. Moulton, who differed from Mr. Sharpe as to the principle on which the poet's practice depended.—Mr. W. Poel, speaking as a practical actor, thought that Mr. Sharpe had overlooked the importance of sound from an elocutionary point of view.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Dec. 14.—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, President, in the chair.—The President gave an account of Siebeck's view of the 'Philebus' of Plato. After some introductory remarks on the vital importance,

for every philosophical system, of the question where and in what specifically its principle of efficient causation is made to consist—as, for instance, the attraction exerted on the world by the Supreme Being, whose own energy is *νόμος νομοτίας*, in Aristotle's system; the transcendental agency, phenomenally known as of two kinds, causality by necessity and causality through freedom, of Kant's; the self-differentiation and self-identification of the *Begriff* in Hegel's; the will in Schopenhauer's; the physical force issuing from the unknowable in Mr. Herbert Spencer's—the President proceeded to read a MS. translation of Dr. Hermann Siebeck's dissertation 'De Doctrina Idearum qualis est in Platonis Philebo' (reprinted 1872), in which this question is raised with regard to Plato's philosophy.—A discussion followed.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Asiatic, 4.—'Newly Discovered Caves at Penjdeh,' Mr. W. Simpson.
— London Institution, 5.—'Russian Village Life,' Mr. W. R. S. Balston.
— Geographical, 8.—'Arctic Exploration with Reference to Grinnell Land,' Major (late Lieut.) A. W. Greely.
Tues. Civil Engineers, 8.—'Construction in Earthquake Countries,' Mr. J. Milne.

Science Gossip.

LORD SALISBURY will shortly publish, probably in one of the magazines, an essay embodying the results of some recent work in chemical analysis.

MR. H. MARSHALL WARD, lecturer of Owens College, Manchester, has been appointed to the vacant chair of botany at Cooper's Hill.

MR. EDWIN ORMOND BROWN, assistant chemist to the War Department, died on Saturday, the 5th inst., of pneumonia, following an attack of jaundice, at the age of fifty-nine. Mr. Brown had been actively engaged for thirty years in the chemical department of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, during which time he contributed to a considerable extent to the improvement of the manufacture of gun-cotton and dynamite.

M. LECHIEU, of Mons, brought recently before the French Society for the Encouragement of National Industry a new fire-damp indicator. M. Lechien proposes the use of an indiarubber ring, the internal circumference of which is pierced with holes. This is allowed to become inflated in a suspected locality, and when it is placed round a safety lamp, a very slight compression sends the gas into the interior, and its character is indicated by the alteration produced in the flame.

M. JOSEPH BERTRAND was on Thursday, the 10th inst., received into the Academy of Sciences of Paris as successor to M. J. D. Dumas. Amongst the *savants* present was the venerable M. Chevreul, who in a few months will complete his hundredth year.

M. A. POTIER brought before the Académie des Sciences on November 16th a 'Theory of Freezing Mixtures.' We direct attention to this communication, as it explains in a satisfactory way the various changes which take place as the temperature falls, and the paper does not admit of abstraction.

FINE ARTS

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, 6, Pall Mall East, from 10 till 5.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

ALFRED D. BRIFT, R.W.S., Secretary.

'THE VALE OF TRANS.'—DORÉ'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 25, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Trastevere,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Plato's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

Introductory Studies in Greek Art. By Jane E. Harrison. With Map and Illustrations. (Fisher Unwin.)

ONCE again we are called on to complain of the illustrations, not merely inadequate, but actually repulsive, which a writer on art—on Greek art, on Greek sculpture—interleaves in chapters which claim to teach

the reader to appreciate the most perfect works of human genius. Here, as in volumes far more pretentious, deformity and ugliness are thrust upon the reader without even an apology. In some cases there is much reason to think that these examples of new modes of reproduction give only too true a measure of the competence of the author as an expounder of beauty in art; when this is not the case the public will be apt to infer that they indicate the author's measure of what respect it is worth his while to entertain for the taste of his readers. Within living memory woodcuts of classical subjects were common enough which, however they may have failed to catch distinctive styles and the proper charm of the antique, were still curiously accurate in detail and definite in outline. Nor is the fact that novel processes are resorted to any excuse for the deterioration. Nothing can be more admirable and satisfactory than the photographic illustrations of the catalogues and treatises on Greek coins which we owe to the labour and the learning of the officers of the British Museum Medal Room. But blots and smudges like those in this volume make Phidias and Praxiteles hideous, and do much to rob the author of fair hearing or fair play. Yet a great deal can be said in favour of this little book of three hundred pages. It is the work of a lady who has made herself familiar with the monuments of ancient art, and moreover is imbued with the associations of the social conditions, history, and literature of antiquity. The book in consequence is free from pretentious display of accomplishments. Again, though the author refers to her "five years of archaeological teaching at the British Museum," she is, on the whole, but a sparing votary of the idols of the cave. She seldom makes such a mistake as that she commits when she so far misapprehends the commonplace elaboration of the Mausoleum frieze as to believe that she sees in it hints even of "something of the wild pathos of the genius of Scopas, its stir and movement, its life and intensity, with something of its melancholy." To appreciate the genius of Scopas we must go to the daughter of Niobe in the Vatican, and shall scarcely care to come back afterwards to the frieze of the Mausoleum.

The time apparently is not yet when an English writer on Greek art can make use of the inestimable services of the Germans to the archaeological side of the study without entirely renouncing his independence, and without bowing down to their authority when they venture on interpretations for which refined sensibility and taste are indispensable. It was from Germany that Miss Harrison derived the notion—and she will be wise to send it back again—that the Hermes of Praxiteles, with his face inclined to front that of the baby Dionysos on his arm, is not really looking at it—nay, is not even attending to it.

"Hermes is not looking at Dionysos, he is not thinking of him. Dionysos, placing one tiny hand on the shoulder of the elder god, tries to attract his attention, but in vain. Hermes is the main motive of the group, the child Dionysos is little but a mere appendage..... The artist has caught the reflex of the glory of Hermes in a passing moment of pathetic expression; he looks away with soft dreamy eyes."

There is said to be "a look in the face of Hermes as of a man sunk in reverie, who does not, cannot, perhaps will not, face the reality of life." The reader is told to note his sweet kindness to the child Dionysos, whom but a few hours hence he will give up to the charge of the nymphs of Nyse; already the child is half forgotten, and the god is sunk in a brief soft reverie."

If this is really the case the sooner the nymphs of Nyse find themselves in sole charge of the nursing the better. But the babe is safe; there is nothing more at stake than an interpretation of Overbeck's or a theory of Prof. Brunn,

"that this Hermes was one of the early works of the master, when he was apt to project his own personality into that of his subject, when his own personal mood hampered the perfection of his artistic utterance."

Whatever may have been the case with Praxiteles, it is too much the practice of critics of ancient art at present to project their own personalities into their theme. Hence it is that the claim for the Greeks of originality, as their especial and distinguishing gift, is said in Miss Harrison's preface to belong "to the bygone days of art criticism"; now "the historic instinct is wide awake," and "the first duty in speaking of Greek art can be said to be to show by the light of recent discoveries its relation to the art of Egypt, Assyria, and Phœnicia which preceded it." In conformity with this view, half of this little book is devoted to the earlier art of these—to the Greek—barbarian countries. These chapters may be read with interest and with instruction on their own account; but as regards satisfaction of the "new-won earnestness to know the genesis, the *origines* of whatever we study about Greek art," the outcome is nil. The study of contrasted styles no doubt assists the appreciation of what is most admirable and most peculiar in Greek genius, but quite independently of any historical relation. Assistance of this kind might be derived as well, or perhaps better, from a comparison of the quality of Greek art with Chinese, with mediæval or modern.

The besetting temptation of the exclusively historic school of criticism is to assume that every new development of art may be explained by antecedent and concurrent circumstances which are supposed to be quite within critical ken. But the most important circumstances are—many by inevitable accident, many by the still more inevitable nature of things—withdrawn from our knowledge. The works of art also which happen to be preserved are apt to include conspicuously what are utterly false representatives of their epoch. It is well for Phidias and his school and age that, thanks to the tenderness of time, his reputation has not been left at the mercy of unprejudiced judgment on one or two of the metopes of the Parthenon now in the British Museum. If bad sculpture could be associated with the very best at Athens, on the Parthenon, we are not justified in adopting the grim disproportions of the Gorgon metope of Selinus as a fair type of the state of contemporary art. It has no claim to be insisted on as a link in the closely connected sequence of development of Hellenic art. There were bad artists in the best periods, and good artists in some which were

nearly, and but for such exceptions would be reckoned, the very worst. These are anomalies, however, which the champions of the strictly historical point of view find it painful to confront with a steady gaze. It is more tempting to indulge in a display of ingenuity and interpret a statue as the infallible exponent of all the characteristics of the men who made Athens glorious in the contest with Persia or ruined her in the Peloponnesian war. But in political history the most important events are moulded by those qualities of leading men—the spirit of a Chatham, the military genius of a Bonaparte—which no analysis can predict or account for, and in the case of the arts the most important direction of study is not to search for an impossible explanation of the existence of genius on the scheme of historical evolution, but to attain to a perfect appreciation of all wherein it was most excellent, wherein it dominated circumstance. The best Greek art is the art of all time, and has even more important relations to universal humanity than to the history of its particular epoch.

The author states in her preface that her chapter on Phidias and the ideality of the Parthenon marbles was written first, the other chapters being only subsidiary. "The meaning of the term ideality I have sought to explain by reference to the teaching of Plato. Greek literature is the best and only sound comment on Greek art: what is expressed, but undefined, in Phidias, becomes clearly articulate in Plato." Does it? we are inclined to ejaculate after reading this sentence; then we must revise our very positive impressions as to Plato's enunciations. To expound the nature and bearings of ideality in art—to expound it in terms of articulate definition—is a noble design; it is unaccomplished at present in English literature, and it is high time that our professors of fine art should justify themselves by coming to our relief with a matured system of æsthetic. In the mean time it is surely vain to refer us to Plato. To Plato, artist though he is himself, can we least of all apply for a close characterization of the ideal even in poetic, and much less in plastic, art. The author in her comments has relied too implicitly on a popular, but somewhat loose translation. The votary of the beautiful whom Plato brackets with the philosopher in the first degree is not an artist in the modern sense; it is as low down as the sixth degree, after financiers and trainers of gymnasts, that Plato finds a place for the poet and those who like him are occupied with imitation—that is, with the *mimesis* which Aristotle also assumes to be the essential quality of art. Plato would have declined to rank sculptor or painter in the same line with the philosopher at least as eagerly as he was ever prompt to disparage the endowment of an inspired poet. "Still, it is candidly admitted, so complex is Plato's thought, so foreign to our modern manner, that a strong effort of historical imagination is necessary to our right understanding." It is well if, thanks to the strain, imagination does not break loose and leave all historical obligation behind it. The artist who is sent to Plato for guidance to the ideal will fare neither better nor worse than the politicians who applied to Carlyle

for specific instructions how to grapple with his "condition of England question."

It will not be alien to the intent of these observations if it is gathered from them that a perusal of Miss Harrison's 'Studies' will not be uninteresting or unfruitful, however often they appear to go beside or go beyond the proper theme of Greek art.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

* *Rudder Grange* (Nimmo), Mr. F. R. Stockton's popular book, lies on our table, with a hundred capital illustrations on wood, designed with abundance of spirit, and drawn with neatness and tact by Mr. A. B. Frost, who has just sense of the humour of the book.—The new edition of *The Water Babies*, by C. Kingsley (Macmillan & Co.), is enriched with a hundred cuts designed by Mr. L. Sambourne. The volume is nicely printed, and, but for a certain figure of a baby in a landscape, tastefully bound. Mr. Sambourne's cuts are carefully and skilfully drawn. Many of them are at once elegant and realistic. If they lack some of the fancy and playful grace which Kingsley's story demands, they excel in prosaic characterization.—*Puff the Pomeranian*, with other Tales, by Mrs. Sale-Barker (Routledge & Sons), contains, besides fairly agreeable letterpress, numerous capital woodcuts of animals, by Messrs. Coleman, Harrison Weir, and others. Except some very pretty initials, the figure designs are not so good. The coloured plates, by Mr. A. W. Cooper, are pretty and bright—in fact, they are superior to the average of such things.—*Birds, Beasts, and Fishes*, by the same writer and publishers, contains a large proportion of first-rate cuts of animals by Mr. H. Weir, whose vigour knows no diminution, e.g., 'A Shetland Pony' and 'Rooks.'—*A Day's Pleasure for Little People* (same publishers) has a number of very unequal cuts, few of which are so good as those in 'Birds,' &c.—In *Topsy and Clever Master Jack* (same publishers) the cuts are not so good as those of 'A Day's Pleasure.'—The coloured plates in *Aunt Louisa's Nursery Book* (Warne & Co.), a babyish book, are in general moderately good; some are flabby in design and gaudy in colour. It is extremely difficult to produce a cheap book with coloured illustrations which are not worse than none.—There are some very pretty vignettes by Miss E. Scannell in the same publishers' *Sylvia's Daughters*, by F. Scannell. They seem to have been printed too heavily, and some of the figures are weakly drawn.—In *The Child's Pictorial* (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge) there is a figure of 'Purity' which would make Mr. Horsley blush. The pages are crowded with slight cuts drawn with spirit and skill, in a German manner. Others are differently executed, but are good in their way.—*The Ogre*, by M. Cunningham (Marcus Ward & Co.), has a number of trivial and some ill-drawn illustrations, by an artist who judiciously omits to give his name.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

THE Society of British Artists has taken such a step in advance that its exhibition demands attention. Amid nearly seven hundred works, many of them worse than mediocre, the following will interest the visitor to a fine suite of rooms, half of which would suffice for all the tolerable examples. The influence of Mr. Sargent and (pace Velazquez) his model and guide, Mr. Whistler, is, as might be expected, visible on all hands. The result is an odd jumble of old and new mannerisms, methods, and types. Mr. Whistler is present in force, and it is amusing to find him figuring in the character of a leader instead of a rebel. We may draw attention to his 'Arrangement in Grey' (No. 45), 'Note in Flesh Colour' (231), 'Note in Green and Violet' (226), and

'Arrangement in Black,' a portrait of Mrs. Cassati (362), and Nos. 535, 549, 566, and 570. The student will find each of these to be a variation of great delicacy upon almost a single theme in colour and tone. The subtle differences in Mr. Whistler's painting will never be fairly appreciated until he exhibits *en masse* his best pictures of all sorts. We hope some day soon to see such a collection of curious and delicately varied instances as would supply a sensation after Mr. Whistler's own heart.

We may name in the order of the catalogue 'Le Repos du Soir' (17), by Mr. P. Sturdee; 'The Yellow Boy' (25), by Mr. M. L. Menpes; the 'Reverie' (35), by Mr. Gogin; 'Little Jane at the Seaside' (48), by Mr. J. E. Blanche; M. Dannat's 'Study' (87); Mr. Stott's Whistlerian portraits (107), peculiarly quaint and ugly, ill composed, but well toned; Mr. W. H. Weatherhead's clever and Faed-like 'Lass who loved a Sailor' (118); Mr. T. C. Gotch's fine, broad, and artistic 'Portrait' (129); Miss R. Magnus's 'Chrysanthemums' (156); 'He Cometh Not' (191), by Mr. W. A. Breakspeare, a lady in a wood where the dead leaves match her *feuille morte* dress; Mr. E. Ellis's 'Entrance to Peel Harbour' (212), a somewhat crude, but very vigorous picture; Mr. W. H. Trood's 'Divided Attentions' (242); the 'Drying Day' (247) of Mr. M. E. Kindon, an exercise in white and black; Mr. G. Macculloch's quaint and mercilessly ugly 'Caliban and tricky Ariel' (258), which has the merit of being spontaneous; Mr. A. Harrison's 'Bathing Scene' (271), representing sunlit dunes; Mr. Glindoni's slight, but clever 'For England's Glory' (276); Mr. T. C. Gotch's lady amid ruins, called 'The Lovers' Letter-Box' (280); Mr. T. B. Kennington's clever, but ill-proportioned nude 'Wood Nymph' (313); 'Our Old Pier,' by Mr. J. R. Reid (316); 'Toby No. 1' (421) and 'A Moosmie' (423), both by Mr. M. L. Menpes. Mr. Stott's very effective 'Moonrise' (292), a cheaply got success, seems to us not to be new. The gallery also contains works by Messrs. J. Aumonier, W. Baylis, G. and A. de Bréanski, H. Fisher, D. Law, T. N. MacLean, and S. J. Solomon.

Fine-Art Essay.

SIR FREDERIC LEIGHTON has made considerable progress with the decorations for the ceiling of the Music Room in the New York mansion of Mr. Marquand, for which apartment the beautiful furniture designed by Mr. Alma Tadema (which we described some months ago), as well as his picture representing a Greek rhapsodist reading Homer, which was in the Academy this year, are intended. The ceiling is divided into three oblong compartments, of which the central is the largest. In them nearly life-size figures will be painted in full colours on a gold ground, representing the arts associated with music. In the centre of the composition Mnemosyne, the mother of the Muses, sits in an attitude of deep thought. Poetic rapture is supposed to be indicated by her abstracted expression. Her knees are crossed, and she leans forward, resting her head upon one hand. Her brows are overshadowed by a large wreath; her ample draperies cover, without shrouding, her form, and are disposed in a fine, broad, and massive manner. On either hand of Mnemosyne is a slender tripod of bronze. Against one tripod leans a palm wand, a serpent twines about the other tripod. On either side, externally to the tripods, are Euterpe and Thalia. The wings, or side panels, contain similar illustrations of the motive of the entire work, beautiful allegories and perfectly appropriate.

It is proposed to arrange Sir John Millais's pictures in the Grosvenor Gallery so that the more important examples will be hung in the large room, the smaller and earlier paintings in the room generally appropriated to such works. Drawings, including a limited number of book

illustrations, some of which are of great beauty, will be exhibited, together with a selection of fine impressions of woodcuts. A complete collection of choice proofs of engravings made by Mr. T. O. Barlow, Mr. S. Cousins, and others, will be included in the exhibition. We should have preferred a strictly chronological arrangement of the pictures to a decorative one, and we trust that as much as is possible will be done to approximate to this obviously instructive plan of showing the works.

We regret to record the death, on the 11th inst., of Mr. James Fahey, member of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, and its secretary for more than forty years. Born April 16th, 1804, at Paddington—then called "a village in Middlesex containing many beautiful rural spots" (many years later Linnell painted a large landscape in oil which showed that much of the beauty of the district still remained)—James Fahey began to study art under his uncle, Mr. Swaine, an engraver, whose profession he intended to follow. He afterwards became the pupil of Scharf of Munich and at an atelier in Paris, where he worked principally from the figure, and at human anatomy, making life-size studies of dissected parts, which he afterwards drew on stone for surgeons. He in 1825, for the first time, exhibited at the Academy 'A Portrait of a Gentleman'; this was followed, until 1836, by contributions to the same gallery, the British Institution, and "Suffolk Street." In course of time the charms of a country life induced Fahey to devote himself exclusively to landscape painting. This was some time before 1831, when the only gallery for the exhibition of drawings belonged to the close Society of Painters in Water Colours. Our artist, therefore, in 1834 joined other practitioners of this branch of art, who in 1832 had started the "Associated Painters in Water Colours," whose three exhibitions were held at No. 16, Old Bond Street, about four hundred examples being shown on each occasion. In 1835 the best of these artists, including Fahey, formed the "New Society of Painters in Water Colours," which, after holding three exhibitions in Exeter Hall, settled in 1838 at No. 53, Pall Mall, with our painter as secretary—a post he filled with the most zealous devotion, tact, and success until 1874, when, the society having meanwhile renamed itself "The Institute of Painters in Water Colours," he resigned. The Institute had not the grace to bestow on him a vote of thanks. He contributed to its gallery with scarcely a break from its foundation. Appointed teacher of drawing to Merchant Taylors' School in 1856, he continued in that office for twenty-seven years, at the end of which period he retired with honourable recognition and a full pension. His kindly, upright, and helpful nature was recognized by all his friends, who profited by it at every turn. His son, Mr. E. H. Fahey, is well known to our readers.

THE *Art Journal* for next month will make a new departure by the introduction of an article on the scenic display (of Goethe's 'Faust') at the Lyceum. Mr. Irving, Mr. Telbin, and Mr. Craven having granted the use of sketches made for them in Germany, our contemporary has employed the studies made at Nuremberg, the Brocken, and elsewhere to illustrate an article written by Mr. Joseph Hatton.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold a fortnight ago a collection of Greek and Roman antiquities, for the chief part excavated in Rhodes. An Archaic Jar, decorated with geometric patterns, realized 28l. 10s. A Panathenaic Amphora, 30l. A Cylindric early Chalcidian style, decorated with Ajax killing Cassandra, Heracles before Zeus and Hera, and the warriors fighting, 55l.; another, not so perfect, 27l. 10s. A Hydria, grotesque bearded figure, 30l. 10s. Crater in the florid style, Dionysus and Ariadne reclining in midst of Thiasus, 36l. 15s. A bronze open armlet ter-

minating in two gold tigers' heads, 20l. 10s. A fictile Amphora in imitation of glass, with figures in high relief, 60l.

THE Liverpool City Council, moved, perhaps, by love for art as well as by a sense of what Manchester, as we have already recorded, is doing in the same direction, has granted 500l. for the purchase of casts for the Walker Art Gallery. Mr. P. H. Rathbone's report of the desirability of this grant had been endorsed by a committee; Alderman Samuelson supported the recommendation. Mr. Paull voted against the proposition unless the gallery of casts is to be opened to the public on Sundays. It will be remembered that a certain number of fine casts from the antique, originally the gift of George IV. or gathered by William Roscoe, are now deposited in the Royal Institution, Liverpool, with the pictures from the Roscoe Collection. It is a great pity the people of Liverpool cannot agree to bring all these works under the roof of the Walker Art Gallery. Among the pictures are some of extreme interest and rarity.

It is proposed to shelter the runic monument at Ruthwell, near Annan, from the weather—which is gradually effacing its interesting legends, especially the more lightly chiselled runes—in a building adjoining the parish church, in which it formerly stood. The cost of the building is estimated at about 250l., towards which the Earl of Mansfield has given 25l., and other donations have been promised. This is a laudable project, but why should the minister of Ruthwell call it the "Proposed Restoration of the Runic Monument"? *Dis omen avertant.*

MR. LOWES DICKINSON has very nearly finished a picture of the late F. D. Maurice, which is to be placed shortly in Queen's College, Harley Street, an institution which has good reasons for honouring Maurice's memory.

THE death is announced of M. Théodore Labrousse, the well-known architect of Paris, in which city he was born in March, 1799, and where he studied under Vaudoyer and H. Lebas, at the same time attending the École des Beaux-Arts. In 1827 he obtained the Premier Grand Prix d'Architecture, and went to Rome. While at the Villa Medici he sent home some very interesting studies of the so-called Temple of Vesta, and numerous Etruscan remains. On his return to Paris he built the Collège Ste. Barbe, and was appointed architect to the Government. In 1869 he was made an officer of the Legion of Honour. So says the *Chronique des Arts*.

It is reported that M. Cousin, Conservateur du Musée Carnavalet, is in treaty for the purchase of the bath in which Marat was assassinated by Charlotte Corday. There is, it seems, a probability that, unless the French Government is anticipated by Madame Tussaud, the Musée in question will be enriched by the addition of this relic.

M. MEISSONIER has, it is reported by the French papers, undertaken to paint a gigantic fresco for the Panthéon. The subject is to be the 'March of Attila upon Paris.'

M. JEAN VAN DEN KERCKHOVEN, sculptor of Brussels, is dead, aged seventy years.

THE recently deceased Mr. Vanderbilt, of New York, possessed among other works of art, which will not, we are informed, come into the market, 'L'Ordonnance,' 'Charge des Cuirassiers,' and other pictures by M. Meissonier; 'Le Bourget' of M. de Neuville; 'La Bataille de Buzenval' of M. Detaille; a splendid gathering of pictures by Troyon, Millet, Rousseau, Breton, and Zeim; eight pictures by M. Gérôme; and a Fortuny of the first class.

THE Belgian sculptor M. Séverin van Aer-schodt died at Louvain lately, aged eighty years; he worked in Paris under Etex. He produced the bas-reliefs on the tomb of Napoleon I.; the statue of God the Father over the major altar of St. Quentin; and the statues

surmounting the portal of the Hôtel de Ville at Louvain. About 1855 he abandoned sculpture to devote himself to bell-founding and inquiries into the sonority of bells. In these matters he distinguished himself.

THE death is announced of Heinrich Heinlein, said to be "the Nestor of German landscape painters." He was born in 1803, and belonged to the Munich school.

THERE has been much excitement in Paris about the pictures which we mentioned some time ago had been purchased by subscription for the Louvre. The authorities of the museum have rejected some of them, among them the Botticelli. M. Turquet, who sanctioned the subscription, if he did not suggest it, has been questioned in the Chamber. It is said that M. Turquet was deceived by a ring of picture dealers, who wished to get rid of their unsaleable rubbish, and took advantage of the Under Secretary's weakness for posing as a connoisseur.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The Popular Concerts. M. de Fanny's Recital.

THE present season of the Popular Concerts has been noteworthy so far for the number of additions to the repertory, at least one novelty being included in almost every programme. Last Saturday the words "first time" were only attached to a very pleasing little 'Berceuse Slave' by Herr Franz Néruda, originally composed, it is said, as a violoncello solo, but played on this occasion by Madame Néruda on the violin. Miss Fanny Davies gave an exquisitely finished rendering of Mendelssohn's Andante with Variations in E flat, Op. 82. Volkmann's concise and musicianly, though by no means original Quartet in G minor, Op. 14, and Schumann's Quintet in E flat, Op. 44, were included in the programme; and Miss Carlotta Elliot contributed songs by Franz, Godard, and Alice Borton.

On Monday the first work was a Piano-forte Quintet in C minor by Kiel, Op. 76. The name of this composer has only appeared in the programmes at rare intervals, and we cannot assert that any injustice has been done by this comparative neglect. Kiel was a sound musician, and, in fact, was regarded as the greatest contrapuntist of his time in Germany. But he did not possess a spark of the divine fire of genius, and his works do not, therefore, appeal to the higher emotional faculties, though the learning and structural skill they frequently display may claim the respect of musicians. The Quintet in C minor is decidedly a favourable example of Kiel's talent. It is laid out on a far more elaborate scale than the Quartet in A minor previously introduced, and contains a good deal of effective writing, particularly in the middle movements. Though not likely to achieve any large amount of popularity, it deserves to be heard occasionally as a representative work of an industrious composer. Miss Zimmermann played Chopin's Nocturne in D flat and a somewhat trivial Tocata in F by Mr. Arthur O'Leary; and Herr Franz Néruda gave some violoncello solos by Popper in masterly style, the concert ending with Beethoven's String Trio in C, Op. 9, No. 1. Mr. Santley was the vocalist, but his selections do not call for remark. It may, perhaps, be explained that the pianist at the concert on the 11th prox. will be Miss

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Fanny Davies—not Miss Mary Davies, as erroneously announced in Monday's programme.

The second pianoforte recital of M. de Pachmann on Monday was even better attended than the first. St. James's Hall being thronged from end to end, while the largeness of the audience was not more remarkable than its attentive demeanour, scarcely half a dozen persons leaving before the last note had been struck. Though the programme contained no novelties, it was interesting and well diversified. The musicians who happened to be present were doubtless glad to hear Weber's Sonata in *c* minor, which, though less popular than the companion works in *c* and *a* flat, is as beautiful and as characteristic of the composer as either of them. The performance was thoroughly admirable in style and tempo, and, what is deserving of special note, the original text was not submitted to modern improvements, Weber's music having suffered much at the hands of the caricaturist. This was the most important work of the afternoon, the others being pieces in single movements, including several by Chopin; Raff's *Giga con Variazioni* from the suite Op. 91; Liszt's *Rhapsodie Hongroise*, No. 13; Raff's '*La Fileuse*'; and some trifles by Henselt. English music was represented by an elegantly written Nocturne in *a* flat by Mr. J. F. Barnett. The whole of the programme was interpreted in M. de Pachmann's best manner, which is equal to saying that so far as regards delicacy and finish there was absolutely nothing to desire.

Musical Gossip.

The pianoforte playing of Mdle. Louise Douste (De Fortia) at her concert at the Prince's Hall yesterday (Friday) week fully confirmed the impression previously formed of her, namely, that she has great natural ability, but that she is by no means, as yet, a finished artist. There was a good deal of character and feeling in her rendering of Schumann's '*Faschingschwank aus Wien*' and Beethoven's Trio in *D*; but technically there was much to desire. The young lady should, if possible, place herself under a first-rate teacher for a time. She has the making of an excellent player, and only requires careful guidance for the development of her innate talents.

The performance of the Strolling Players' Amateur Orchestral Society at St. James's Hall yesterday week was rather disappointing, being decidedly inferior to those of last season. The rendering of Mr. Prout's Symphony in *F* was very slovenly, especially in the strings, the quality of which was poor, considering the large number of players. Insufficient rehearsal may have been the cause of the falling off, and if so the remedy is easy. Cherubini's overture '*Les Deux Journées*,' Massenet's '*Le Dernier Seuil de la Vierge*,' and a selection from Rubinstein's suite '*Bal Costumé*' were included in the programme. Mr. Norfolk Megone conducted the concert.

Gounod's '*Mors et Vita*' was performed by the choir of the Bow and Bromley Institute under Mr. W. G. McNaught on Tuesday evening. This society is always well to the fore in the production of important new works, and it renders them in a manner that meets all musicianly requirements. The chorus in Gounod's sacred trilogy was admirable throughout, and in the voice quality there was a noticeable improvement as compared with last year. Miss Anna Williams, Miss Damian, Mr. Iver McKay,

and Mr. Ludwig formed an excellent quartet of soloists, the ensemble being irreproachable. Mr. McNaught's tempi erred sometimes in the direction of slowness, and the organ part was rather slovenly, but these were the only questionable points in the performance. The cuts made in the work were judicious with one exception. It was decidedly wise to omit the '*Somnus mortuorum*' and the ugly '*Tubæ ad ultimum judicium*,' but some of the weak later numbers of the '*Requiem*' could have been better spared than the impressive '*Dies Iræ*.'

The third performance of the Heckmann Quartet on Tuesday at the Prince's Hall commenced with a Quartet in *c* minor by Grieg, which the Norwegian composer has dedicated to this association of artists. It is a very characteristic work, full of national colour, particularly in the two middle movements. Schubert's Quartet in *c*, Op. 161, and Beethoven's in *e* flat, Op. 127, were also performed.

Four students at the Royal Normal College for the Blind, Miss Amelia Campbell, Miss Jeannie Gilbert, Mr. John Moncur, and Mr. Alfred Hollins, accompanied by Dr. F. J. Campbell, the principal of the college, sail for the United States to-day, where they will appear at orchestral and miscellaneous concerts, under the direction of Mr. Theodore Thomas, Mr. B. J. Lang, and other eminent conductors. A farewell concert by the artists named was given at the Steinway Hall on Thursday evening.

THE Musical Artists' Society gave its thirty-ninth performance of new compositions last Saturday evening at Willis's Rooms, when the programme included string quartets by Mr. Marshall Hall Bell and Mr. E. Aguilar, a duo for piano by Mr. C. E. Stephens, a trio by Mr. G. W. Hammond, two pianoforte solos by Mr. C. Gardner, and songs by Messrs. Walter Macfarren, Herbert Baines, and E. M. Lawrence.

The last of the present series of Messrs. Brinsmead's Symphony Concerts will be given at St. James's Hall this evening, when Berlioz's '*Symphonie Fantastique*' is to be performed under the direction of Mr. Ganz, and Madame Frickenhauß will play the prize pianoforte concerto composed by Mr. Oliver King.

A SERIES of weekly organ recitals is being given at the Albert Palace on Wednesdays. The organist this week has been M. Guilmant; next Wednesday Mr. George Riseley, of Bristol, will play.

MADAME VIARD-LOUIS commenced another series of performances at the Prince's Hall last Wednesday, when her programme included Raff's Sonata, Op. 73, for piano and violin, Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 106, and Schumann's pianoforte quintet.

THE Borough of Hackney Choral Association will perform Mackenzie's '*Rose of Sharon*' at Shoreditch Town Hall on Monday evening next.

A STUDENTS' concert was given at the Kensington School of Music last Tuesday evening.

THE Kensington Choral and Orchestral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. William Buels, gave a performance of Smart's '*Bride of Dunkerron*' last evening at Kensington Town Hall.

MR. ISIDORE DE LARA gave a vocal recital at Steinway Hall last Tuesday afternoon.

It is now arranged that next year's performances at Bayreuth are to begin on July 23rd and close on August 20th. '*Parifal*' is to be given on each Monday and Friday, and '*Tristan und Isolde*' on each Sunday and Thursday within these dates. The conductorship is to be shared between Herren Levi, Richter, Mottl, and Seidl.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

FURTHER light has just been thrown upon the history of the second folio edition of Shakespeare, now in America, which contains on a

minute inserted slip of paper a presumed veritable signature of the great dramatist. Some months ago the Shakspeare Society of New York referred to a committee of its members the task of investigating the authenticity of the signature, with the result, as we surmised when the subject was first mooted, of proving that the John Ward, a previous owner of the volume, was not the person of that name who was a vicar of Stratford-on-Avon in the seventeenth century. This point having been finally settled, it was acutely suggested by Mr. E. P. Vining, of Chicago, one of the committee, that the volume might have belonged to Mrs. Siddons's grandfather, John Ward, an actor who, in 1746, gave a performance of '*Othello*' at Stratford in aid of a fund for the '*restoration*' of the poet's monumental effigy—a project that was unfortunately carried into effect two years afterwards. The original manuscripts respecting this earliest known tampering with the poet's bust happen to be preserved by Mr. Halliwell-Phillips, and by a comparison of the actor's handwriting in that gentleman's collection with a photographic copy of the John Ward memoranda in the folio the accuracy of Mr. Vining's conjecture has been established.

THE performances of the '*Andria*' at Westminster School have been highly successful. The boys improved with practice, and appeared to more advantage on Wednesday than on previous occasions. As Mysis Mr. Buchanan proved himself decidedly the best actor in the school. His impersonation was much above the average. Mr. Yglesias as DAVUS was excellent, although inclined to exaggerate. The Simo of Mr. Withers was also good, and Mr. James as Pamphilus did his best with a trying part. The epilogue was more than usually entertaining, and delighted a crowded house. The well-worn phrase '*Rusticus expectans*' received a dexterous application to current politics, and the undergraduate applicant for a vote was neatly addressed:—

*Heu miserande puer! si qua fata aspera rumpas
Suffragator eris.*

MR. H. H. FURNESS has nearly completed his long-looked-for edition of '*Othello*,' which will form the sixth volume of his '*Variorum Shakespeare*,' and will be issued shortly by Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co.

A ONE-ACT play by Messrs. Philip Bourke Marston and Alec Nelson, played at an amateur entertainment at Ladbroke Hall, inspires more interest than usually attends works produced under similar conditions. '*A Test*' is an adaptation of a story by Mr. Marston which first appeared in a magazine. As the first dramatic essay of one who has attained distinction as a poet, and is, moreover, the bearer of a name long and honourably associated with dramatic literature, the novelty drew to the remote scene of its production a public such as the hall has, it may be surmised, seldom seen. '*A Test*' conforms rather to French than English views of art in having a termination which is not only painful, but to English views incomplete. The action occupies the half hour of a thunder-storm. Jealous of her husband's affection, not wholly, perhaps, without cause, the heroine watches an interview between a spouse she fears to be faithless and a girl whom she knows to be in the way of being a mother. After a scene of passionate reproach of the woman who has dared, as she believes, to enter the lists with her, she adopts a plan suggested to her by her attendant, and after quitting the house sends her servant to say she has been struck dead by lightning. Upon returning to witness the effect of her '*test*' she finds her husband, who after a vain search for her body has re-entered the house, bereft of his reason. Upon the spectacle of her horror and self-reproach the curtain falls. Painful as is the story, it has dramatic grip, and with a stronger interpretation it might take a hold on the public. Mr. Edward Aveling, who played as the hero,

displayed power of a crude sort. Miss May Morris, who was the object of conjugal suspicion, has a fine face without the most elementary knowledge of acting. The dialogue of 'A Test' is always adequate and sometimes vigorous.

So well suited to the company at the Royalty is 'Le Procès Veuradieux'—known to English playgoers in the version of Messrs. Clement Scott and Arthur Mathison, produced at the Criterion, as 'The Great Divorce Case'—its performance proves the most exhilarating yet attempted. With the exception of M. Bahier, however, who is rapidly establishing himself in favour as a sound comedian, no member of the company specially distinguished himself, and what was principally noticeable was the lightness and moderation with which scenes offering many temptations to extravagance were rendered. As a portion of the same bill 'Les Prociueuses Ridicules' of Molière was also given. The representation of this was conventional, but creditable.

THE performances at the Haymarket Theatre will be suspended this evening, and the theatre will remain closed until the 2nd of January, when Mr. Barrymore's drama of 'Nadjezda,' which has been highly successful in America, will be given for the first time. Miss Rigl, an American actress, has been specially engaged for the title rôle. Other parts will be sustained by Miss Lydia Foote, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Mackintosh, and the author. A new farce by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald is also promised.

This evening will witness the first performance at the Lyceum of 'Faut,' the appearance at the Gaiety of the Parsee troupe, and the representation at the Avenue of the revised burlesque of 'Kenilworth.'

SOME love scenes for Miss Rorke, written by Mr. Alfred Calmour, have been introduced into the Vaudeville farce of 'Loyal Lovers,' with the effect of strengthening the interest.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—G. G. M.—A. L. F.—J. N.—H. D.—R. W. F.—received.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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Editorial Communications should be addressed to "The Editor"—Advertisements and Business Letters to "The Publisher"—at the Office, 22, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, E.C. Printed by JOHN C. FRANCIS, Athenæum Press, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, E.C.; and Published by the said JOHN C. FRANCIS at No. 22, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, E.C.

Agents: for SCOTLAND, Messrs. Bell & Bradburn and Mr. John Menzies, Edinburgh; for IRELAND, Mr. John Robertson, Dublin.—Saturday, December 19, 1885.